

DPRK-US SHOWDOWN

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**FOREIGN LANGUAGES PUBLISHING HOUSE
PYONGYANG, KOREA
JUCHE 103(2014)**

Preface

Geographically, Korea lies in a place of strategic importance adjoining the Eurasian continent by land and the Pacific by sea.

It is an area in which the interests of big powers are concentrated and which directly affects their interrelationship. So it is geopolitically advantageous for the strong, but disadvantageous for the weak.

Korea, once a weak country, had recorded a humiliating history as an arena of fierce contention between imperialist powers.

The Korean people still remember the bloody past when they were subjected to aggression and plunder by the imperialists who had scrambled to seize the geopolitical vantage point.

The US had spotted the strategic importance the Korean peninsula assumes in the Asian continent and long since made vicious attempts to invade Korea.

The Americans who began the invasion of Korea with the intrusion by the aggressor ship General Sherman back in 1866 intensified moves to occupy Korea after it was liberated from Japanese military rule.

It compelled the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to enter into a fierce confrontation with the US while building a new Korea and creating happiness of its people from the first day of its foundation on September 9 1948.

The US finally ignited the fuse of war on June 25 1950 to realize its ambition to nip the fledgling country in the bud, thereby the grim Korean war broke out.

Kim Il Sung, the ever-victorious and iron-willed brilliant commander and outstanding military strategist, inspired the entire army and all the people to turn out in the sacred war to ward off the invaders and led the three-year Fatherland Liberation War (June 25 1950-July 27 1953) to victory.

Under the leadership of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il the DPRK beat off all the challenges of aggressors from the 1960s to 1980s when the dark clouds of war hovered over the country due to the incessant arms buildup and military provocation by the US.

In the 1990s when the DPRK was the focus of the world's attention as the Americans persistently pursued a policy of stifling the country while spreading the rumour about its "early collapse", Kim Jong Il led the acute political and military confrontation with the US to victory with the nerve and grit of a great commander.

He administered Songun politics to foil every arrogant and aggressive move of the imperialists and safeguard socialist Korea.

The geopolitical position of the country is the same as ever, but it is no longer a weak country of yesterday which was trodden underfoot as a theatre of wrangling among big powers to expand the sphere of their influence. It has turned into a proud political and military power and its people are demonstrating their dignity as an independent people whom no one dares to provoke.

Today the DPRK is advancing dynamically towards the peak of a thriving country under the helmsmanship of Marshal Kim Jong Un, supreme leader of the Party, the state and the army.

As it is led by him, the DPRK will emerge victorious in the showdown with the US, a confrontation between resource, which has continued century after century.

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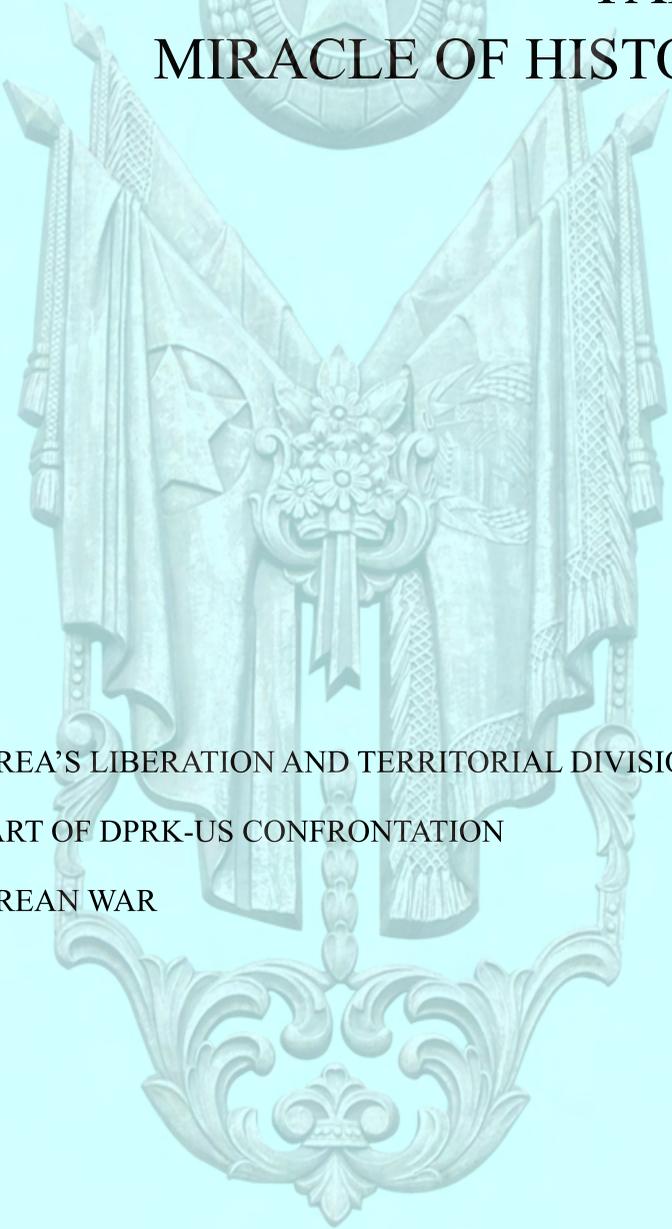
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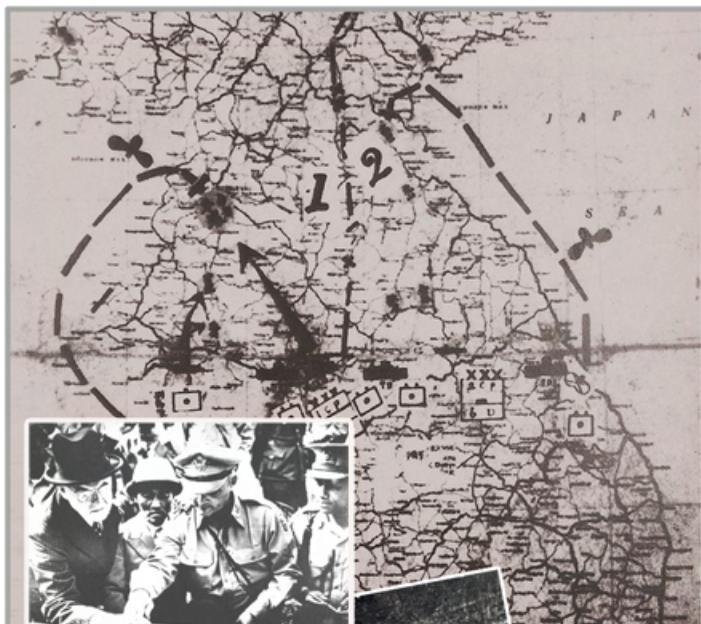


PART I MIRACLE OF HISTORY

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Marshal Kim Il Sung acknowledging the cheering of the heroic Korean People's Army service personnel and Korean people who won victory in the Fatherland Liberation War on August 15 Juche 42 (1953).



The operation plan for the invasion of the DPRK worked out by the US army.



John Foster Dulles checking the final plan for attack on the DPRK in the areas along the 38th parallel.

**1950
6.25**



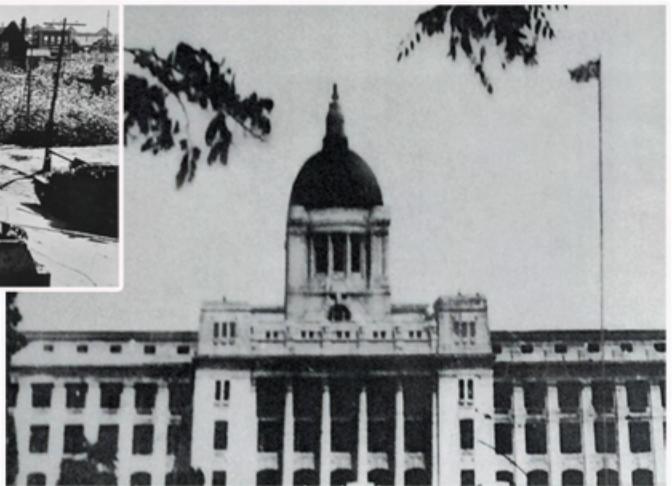
The US started the war of aggression against the DPRK on June 25 1950.



The KPA turning over to an immediate counteroffensive after repelling the aggressors' attack.



KPA tanks and soldiers rushing into Seoul.



The flag of the DPRK fluttering on top of the Capitol Building in Seoul.



After liberating Taejon.





KPA combatants fighting bravely to defend the heights of the country during the Fatherland Liberation War.



KPA soldiers shouting "hurray" after winning the war started by the US.



The US suffered ignominious defeats in the Korean war.



Smith, commander of the US 1st marine division, gained notoriety as “grave general”.



Clark, commander of the UN Command, signing the Armistice Agreement and the signing ceremony at the time.



KPA columns proudly marching past in celebration of war victory.

Part I MIRACLE OF HISTORY

The Korean war aroused the serious apprehension of the world's peace-loving people in the 1950s. Before the outbreak of the war the US was known as the only country that had experienced no defeat in war.

As they started the war the Americans were confident of their victory and many people of other countries thought so.

After launching the war with a surprise armed attack by instigating south Korea, the US brought in troops from its 15 satellite countries and even the Japanese militarists and employed all cruel and brutal methods of war.

The war was a trying ordeal to the DPRK and the Korean People's Army as it was only five years after Korea was liberated from Japanese military rule and two years after the KPA was reorganized into a regular army.

It was not accidental that the world was apprehensive about the results of the war as the warring parties were incomparable with each other in numerical strength and military and technical equipment.

But the Korean People's Army and the Korean people performed a historic miracle of winning the war by repulsing the armed invasion of the US, its satellite countries and the south Korean army under the commandship of Kim Il Sung.

He crushed all the operations and offensives devised by US strategists with brilliant military wisdom and superb strategy and tactics.

Through the process of the war the world came to revere him as the greatest ever commander and the DPRK demonstrated its dignity as a heroic country

that brought about the beginning of US downfall.

The world's people praise President Kim Il Sung as a "peerless hero" and a "symbol of victory in anti-imperialist struggle" as he led the war to victory.

The undying achievements he had made by leading the army and people to destroy the US that boasted of being the "strongest" in the world and its following forces and win the war are shining century after century.

1. Korea's liberation and territorial division

Circumstances of Japan's surrender

On August 9 1945 the Soviet Union declared war on Japan pursuant to the convention concluded with the Allied Powers and entered a state of hostilities against the Japanese imperial army.

That day Commander Kim Il Sung issued an order to the units of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army to launch the general offensive for the liberation of Korea.

The main forces of the KPRA marched southward from Korea's northern border areas, destroying Japanese troops in several directions in the east coastal and inland areas.

Many small units and all-people resistance groups conducted bold political and military activities in different parts of the country to bring earlier the day of national liberation.

The day when the Korean people would liberate their country and achieve national independence by their own efforts was near at hand.

The Japanese imperialists facing their defeat in the Pacific war cried for the "defence of Korea", seeing it as the supply base and the final base of war to prolong their remaining days. They made desperate bids to fight to the last

with Korea as their foothold.

The launch of the advance of Soviet troops to smash Japan's Kwantung army created a favourable environment for the KPRA and the Korean people to achieve national liberation.

The Soviet army's operation against Japan was brought to a successful conclusion in a short time thanks to the KPRA's general offensive and the Koreans' all-people resistance.

The American troops were still fighting with the Japanese in the Pacific, so the US was pessimistic about the prospect of war against Japan and anxious about the postwar issues keeping an eye on the Korean peninsula.

The US 10th army which had been active in the Pacific managed to land on Okinawa at the cost of huge loss of lives in April 1945 but their advance was checked by stiff Japanese resistance.

The Americans were suffering from an extreme shortage of effectives and means of maritime transport.

The US rulers had calculated that when Japan was defeated it would be easy to make Korea their colony, but they were very upset by the balance of military forces and the developments on the Korean peninsula.

Though the Korean people were smashing Japanese troops on the peninsula, US troops failed to advance to Korea. The realities made the US keenly feel the necessity to make an excuse for meddling in the Korean issue and dispatch its troops there.

Around that time the US unexpectedly received an official notification from the Japanese government that they would "surrender if the US recognizes the prerogative of the emperor," through radio broadcast in Tokyo on the morning of August 10 1945 by Washington time, through the Moscow channel late at night that day and through the US legation in Switzerland at 2 a.m. on the 11th.

As a result, the situation of the Pacific war took a drastic turn.

The US got impatient over the surrender notification by Japan which had

clamoured for the defence of Japan proper and a prolonged war. Because when the KPRA and Soviet troops were making a sweeping advance, the American troops were hanging around near Okinawa.

Colonels Charls Bonesteel and Dean Rusk of the strategic policy section of the Office of Operations of the US Department of the Army were instructed to work out a plan to make the US forces take charge of the disarmament of the Japanese troops in Korea. They fixed the 38th parallel as the line of assignment for disarming the Japanese army by the US and the Soviet Union by using a map of the Far East on a reduced scale without any provincial boundaries of Korea.

They drew the dividing line at the 38 degrees latitude north as it is in the middle of the country and there was Seoul, bulwark of Japanese military rule, in the area south of the line they would occupy.

The American colonels saw that if the US forces seized Seoul it would be favourable for them to dominate the whole of Korea.

The plan was ratified by President Truman on August 15 and passed down to MacArthur, commander-in-chief of the US Army Forces in the Pacific, that day who proclaimed it as General Order No. 1.

The US Department of State notified the Allies of the plan of the dividing line and the UK, France and Kuomintang's China agreed on it.

The Soviet Union examined the general order sent by the US on August 15 and did not oppose the assignment plan, whereby the Soviet forces would disarm the Japanese troops in the area north of the 38th parallel and the US forces would disarm them in the area south of the line, in the telegram it sent to the US on August 16.

This surprised even the Americans who worked out the plan.

At the time, the Soviet troops were advancing beyond the 38th parallel and they were able to reach Pusan in the southernmost part of Korea before the US troops arrived in the country.

There are several conjectures over the Soviet Union's tacit approval of the US plan, but no accurate information about it has been known so far.

From the first day of their occupation of south Korea the US forces regarded the 38th parallel as the outpost line of aggression for occupying the whole of the Korean peninsula, not a temporary line of demarcation.

In 1994, about 50 years since then, former US President Jimmy Carter visited the DPRK.

On June 17 President Kim Il Sung went to the West Sea Barrage aboard an excursion ship together with him.

On the way Carter told him that he came to the country for the improvement of the US-DPRK relationship this time and he would come again to contribute to Korea's reunification next time and referred to Korea's division by the 38th parallel. According to him, Truman had instructed an American officer to draw the line to prevent the southward advance of the Soviet army in August 1945 and the officer was his friend who later became the US secretary of State.

Kim Il Sung told him that as it was the fault made by his friend he should work to remove the demarcation line.

US military occupation of south Korea

Why do historians say the US forces occupied south Korea instead of liberating it?

The world should pay due attention to this.

It was not till September 8 1945 that the American troops arrived in south Korea without shedding even a drop of blood.

They landed on Inchon at 13:00 that day and thronged into Seoul the next morning, preceded by armoured vehicles.

By mid-October more than 70 000 troops forming the main force of the US 24th

corps (the 6th, 7th and 10th divisions) arrived to occupy the whole of south Korea.

The first order issued by John Hodges, the commander of the corps, in south Korea was to place it under curfew.

The US set up in Seoul the headquarters of its forces in south Korea and deployed two divisions in the area along the demarcation line on the 38th parallel and a division in the area south of Seoul to actually divide Korea with the line as the boundary.

It took a series of measures to turn the line into a military and political border though it was fixed as a temporary line for disarming Japanese troops.

Along the 38th parallel of Korea stretching for hundreds of kilometres there were set up 108 US military posts and 132 south Korean police posts. The US forces and the south Korean reactionaries posted along the line blocked people's traffic and trade across the line and started to provoke the north.

The 38th parallel, therefore, turned into an accursed line dividing the territory of Korea into two and separating the one nation.

It severed into two eight counties and 122 villages, removing 514 villages, and cutting off railways, roads, waterways and power transmission lines, forbidding free travel and trade.

The world's big powers discussed the postwar issues of Korea on several occasions during the Second World War, adopting international agreements and declarations on it.

At the Cairo talks in 1943 they recognized that the Korean people were subjected to slavery under Japanese military rule and declared that Korea should achieve freedom and independence.

Such matters were reaffirmed by the Potsdam Declaration adopted at the last conference of World War II the Allies had held over the postwar settlement in July 1945.

However, not a single provision of these international agreements stipulated

the line of operational assignments of both the Soviet and US forces for disarming the Japanese imperial army, i.e. the division of Korea.

A signatory to these international pacts, the US was obliged to implement them.

But it treacherously opted to nullify the international agreements by pursuing a strategy of dominating Korea and finally occupied south Korea by fabricating the plan for dividing Korea along the 38th parallel.

2. Start of DPRK-US confrontation

Korean People's Army, regular revolutionary armed forces

Korea was liberated on August 15 1945.

When cheers of hurrah over national liberation were resounding throughout the 3 000 ri land of Korea, Kim Il Sung judged that peace would not last long on in-depth analysis of the interests of big powers related to Korea.

He had a premonition of a military confrontation with the US already at the time when the artificial demarcation line of the 38th parallel was being fixed.

After returning to Pyongyang in triumph he established the Pyongyang Institute as he saw the prompt solution of the question of military commanding officers, military cadres, by national efforts as the most important issue in the building of regular armed forces.

The institute later produced a large number of military and political personnel.

He saw to it that Central Security Officers School was set up in July 1946 as a step to train military commanding officers exclusively.

He simultaneously pushed ahead with the work to train the backbone of all services and arms.

To build the air force he visited the Sinuiju Aviation Association on No-

vember 29 1945. The day was later instituted as Air Force Day of the DPRK. Later he assumed the chairmanship of the Korean Aviation Association at the proposal of the Sinuiju association.

He took steps to establish the air course at the Pyongyang Institute in March 1946 and dispatched members of the Korean Aviation Association and fine servicemen there.

On August 20 1947 the first regular air corps of the country was organized with the graduates from the air course as the hard core.

He also formed the maritime security corps in June 1946 as the first navy unit of the country and assigned it to guard the coast.

To train the backbone of the navy he went to Wonsan in July 1947 and fixed the site for Maritime Security Officers School.

The school was renamed the Naval Academy in 1948.

This made it possible to train the backbone of the navy in a short time and organize powerful naval units.

On October 26 1947 he saw artillery firing which was carried out prior to the first graduation ceremony of Central Security Officers School and referred to the need for gunners to train harder to become ace marksmen who would hit the target with the first shot without fail.

He also founded an officers' training school to ensure that incumbent officers intensify artillery drill and enhance their commanding and technical levels.

Under his energetic guidance the officers' training base of the artillery was established in a short time, lots of crack shots were trained and artillery units were formed with them as the mainstay.

One day in August 1947 he called to him anti-Japanese war veteran Ryu Kyong Su and assigned him the task of training tankmen to form tank units as early as possible. In September he told him to select personnel who would form the backbone of the first tank unit to organize it and establish and run a

training course above all to this end.

On his visit to the training school in late November he saw to it that the colours were presented to the unit and reviewed a tank parade.

He also wisely led the efforts to form the units of such special arms as scouts, communications men and sappers and such service personnel as quartermasters and army surgeons and increase their combat capabilities.

Consequently, the Korean People's Revolutionary Army which he had founded on April 25 1932 developed into the Korean People's Army, regular revolutionary armed forces, which he proclaimed on February 8 1948.

He also paid close attention to the building of an independent national defence industry.

To this end he first visited the Phyongchon ordnance manufactory in early October 1945.

He told officials that since it was impossible to manufacture heavy weapons immediately it was necessary to start producing small arms first, build a munitions factory on the site of the manufactory and on the basis of this expand and develop the country's munitions industry.

As a result, the first arsenal of the country was built in Phyongchon-ri (Phyongchon District of Pyongyang at present).

Under his outstanding leadership and thanks to the heroic efforts of workers and technicians in the munitions industry sector, the self-reliant defence industry was established to manufacture various types of weapons.

The Korean workers finally built and launched naval vessel 41, the first modern warship of the country, in August 1949.

Kim Il Sung got aboard the ship to inspect its trial navigation, named it *Rodongja* (worker) and saw to it that it was placed into commission in a naval unit on a maritime guard mission at the 38th parallel.

The Korean People's Army reliably defended the DPRK and its people in

peaceful construction and their efforts for carrying out the two-year national economic plan as it grew into the revolutionary armed forces capable of repulsing any enemy attacks.

US preparations for war

Since it militarily occupied south Korea in 1945 the US had put spurs to the preparations for war against the DPRK.

One of the primary concerns of the US was to build a mercenary army in south Korea which it would use as its tool for aggression.

It cooked up the National Defence Force in January 1946 (later renamed south Korean Garrison) by whipping together all riff-raff including vicious Korean officers and men who had served the Japanese imperial army, Chiang Kai-shek's Kuomintang army and Manchukuo army and the Coastal Guards in November.

The south Korean forces reared by the US amounted to 15 regiments already in early 1948.

The US calculated that a properly armed 100 000-strong force was enough to attack north Korea.

At the time of reorganizing the south Korean Garrison into the National Defence Forces by the directive of the US, Syngman Rhee's clan beefed up the ground force from six brigades to five divisions and a brigade with all kinds of arms including special and supply units in May 1949 and organized the Metropolitan Division and the 8th division additionally in June.

The US did not show concern for sharply expanding the south Korean naval and air forces as it had planned to back up the south Korean troops with its own air and naval forces after egging them on to launch a war against the DPRK as bullet-shields for the American troops.

According to information published by south Korea at the time, its armed

forces amounted to 105 752 in all including the 94 974-strong ground force, which was comprised of 67 416-strong eight divisions and 27 558-strong backup force, the 7 715-strong naval force, the 1 897-strong air force and the 1 166-strong marine corps.

If some 50 000-strong police force is added to the figure, the south Korean personnel the US whipped together as its cannon fodder numbered nearly 160 000.

American generals expressed satisfaction with the fact that the south Korean troops were got ready as the proxy force for its DPRK-targeted war.

MacArthur reported in March 1949 to the Joint Chiefs of Staff that the south Korean army attained the level that makes the US troop withdrawal from south Korea possible in terms of training and combat preparedness. In an interview with AP in October 1949 William Roberts, head of the American Military Advisory Group, said that the south Korean soldiers were becoming marksmen proficient in handling all kinds of weapons from small arms to heavy guns.

Answering journalists in June 1950, he said he regarded the south Korean army as capable of repelling an armed force two to three times a foreign force on a par.

Even American generals talked up the south Korean army, for which they provided armaments and which they trained after the US fashion, as the “strongest in Asia”, bragging that it could “annihilate the north Korean army without difficulty”.

In accordance with the elaborate war scenario for the “conquest of the north”, the US redeployed the south Korean troops on the starting positions for attack along the 38th parallel and concentrated more forces to the directions of main attack, i.e. Seoul-Kaesong and Seoul-Uijongbu directions.

American generals organized two combat headquarters with the five south Korean divisions stationed in the first echelon along the 38th parallel, reinforced the divisions with the artillery and other technical service units which had been under the direct control of the south Korean Army Headquarters and

brought the 2nd, 3rd and 5th divisions of the south Korean army to the vicinity of Seoul as operational reserve forces.

As to this, Willoughby, director of the Information Department of the MacArthur Command, confessed that on the eve of the Korean war, most of Syngman Rhee troops were already virtually deployed along the 38th parallel. And in connection with the south Korean troops' deployment at the starting positions for attack, US publications reported that transport units roared along northwards all night through and south Korean troops marched towards important areas for war en masse.

War supplies and munitions of the south Korean army were already being concentrated on Seoul and Uijongbu lines.

As regards this, MacArthur said to the following effect in the joint hearing of both Houses in April 1951:

The north Korean troops were stationed far away from the 38th parallel. Their deployment was not for attack. But the south Korean army already concentrated all its supplies and equipment on the area along the 38th parallel and its units made offensive dispositions, not defensive ones in depth. The whole region between the 38th parallel and Seoul turned into a logistical area.

In the meantime, the US forces stationed in the Far East including Japan got fully ready to move.

The US additionally deployed two aircraft carriers, two cruisers and six destroyers in its naval bases in Japan.

On the pretext of conducting joint exercises of the three services it massively mustered the 1st cavalry division and the 7th, 24th and 25th divisions of its army stationed in Japan from late April 1950.

It saw that once its forces in the Far East went into action they would be able to conclude the Korean war easily since the ground, naval and air forces were fully prepared for the DPRK-targeted war.

It was a matter of time for the US to start the war.

John Foster Dulles flew into Seoul via Tokyo on June 17 1950 and went out to frontline positions of the south Korean troops along the 38th parallel the next day together with the brass hats of the US forces in south Korea and the south Korean army to inspect the readiness for attack. He said:

“No strong enemy whatever would stand against you. If the war goes as planned, the communists will eventually lose their domination over north Korea.”

He stated he came with President Truman’s order to personally examine the preparedness for northward march and launch the expedition immediately if there were no shortcomings in preparations. Expressing satisfaction with the preparedness, he said it was time for the territorial unification of Korea and there was no need to delay the northward march even a day since preparations were completed.

The US issued an emergency alert order to the south Korean forces on June 11 1950 to get them keyed up extremely. On June 24, a day before D-day, it cancelled the order for some of south Korean army units stationed in the depth. Accordingly, some soldiers were allowed out of barracks.

It got the south Korean brass hats to hold the inaugural ceremony of an ordnance factory in Ryongsan and give a dancing party until late at night that day.

The US played such a puerile trick in a bid to build up world public opinion that the KPA started the war.

3. Korean war

Liberation of Seoul, a blow sustained by the US

On the early morning of June 25 1950 the south Korean puppets started the Korean war at the instigation of the US.

The south Korean forces intruded one to two kilometres deep into the north

beyond the 38th parallel throughout the front line.

At the time the US had under its command eight south Korean divisions 100 000 strong in south Korea, four US divisions in Japan and the 7th Fleet and the 5th Air Force in Asia.

Truman ascertained US military superiority by comparing troop dispositions of the US and the Soviet Union in the Far East.

Upon hearing the report that the south Korean puppets launched an armed invasion all along the 38th parallel at the instigation of the US, Kim Il Sung saw to it that a serious warning was given to south Korea to stop armed invasion at once in the name of the DPRK government.

The south Korean forces, however, forced their way deeper into the north, spreading the flames of war.

Kim Il Sung immediately convened a meeting of the Political Committee of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and emergency session of the DPRK Cabinet.

Referring to the need to respond to the enemy's barbarous war of aggression with a just war of liberation at the meetings, he set forth the strategy of switching from defence over to an immediate and decisive counteroffensive.

He said that it was imperative to promptly form counteroffensive groups with the main forces of the KPA and deal heavy blows to the enemy to show the mettle of the Korean people, specifying the ways to implement the strategy.

In the past wars, counteroffensives were made by selecting a decisive time after wiping out and weakening the attacking troops for a certain period and it was customary to fix the line of counterattack in the strategic and operational depth.

But Kim Il Sung issued an order to the KPA units to beat off the enemy and immediately go over to counteroffensive from the lines they were stationed in.

The US provoked the war by relying on its superiority in military strength, but he saw through the fatal drawbacks in its troop deployment and political

and moral aspects.

He was convinced of the political and ideological superiority of the KPA and the Korean people.

At the time it would take the enemy at least a month to bring in huge armed forces from the US mainland.

If the KPA increased the speed of counterattack it could annihilate the enemy and liberate the southern half of Korea before the US aggressor forces arrived.

Like this, the counteroffensive strategy was a realistic and scientific military policy based on in-depth analysis of the prevailing military and political situation, the balance of forces between both sides, the weak points of the enemy and the strong point of the KPA forces.

By order of Supreme Commander Kim Il Sung the KPA lost no time in launching the counteroffensive.

When the enemy launched a surprise attack on the north, five out of eight divisions of the south Korean army formed the first echelon and the remaining three the second echelon and their main group was concentrated along the 38th parallel, especially the main roads in Uijongbu and Seoul in the north of the Han River.

In accordance with his operational policy, the strike group consisting of the 3rd and 4th infantry divisions and the 9th tank brigade of the KPA made powerful frontal attacks on the enemy along the Uijongbu-Seoul direction. A secondary strike group comprised of two infantry combined units furthered the success of battles in the right flank of the main strike group and attacked Seoul from the west and another secondary strike group composed of two infantry combined units and a motorcycle unit struck Seoul from the east.

The 42-kilometre section accounting for 13 per cent of the 320-kilometre-long front of attack was included in the direction of main attack and 26 per cent of the infantry, 37 per cent of the artillery, 80 per cent of tanks and 100 per cent of the air corps were focused on the section.

As they failed in the adventurous surprise attack in the face of the resolute counterattack of the KPA, the main force of the enemy hastily turned to defence in the vantage areas north of Munsan, Uijongbu, Chunchon and Kangnung while some forces of the strike group employed delaying tactics by relying on the positions along the 38th parallel. And operational reserves and units under direct control of the Army Headquarters were all mobilized in the defence.

Crushing the enemy's desperate resistance, the KPA continued to scale up the achievements of counteroffensive.

The 3rd and 4th infantry divisions liberated Tongduchon-ri by smashing the enemy through the frontal attack combined with the action of shock troops and the attack from the rear and flank by detouring troops.

The tank brigade joined efforts with infantry combined units to destroy the resisting enemy and liberate Uijongbu on June 26.

As to the crushing defeat of south Korean troops, a US publication reported at the time to the following effect:

Most of the 1st regiment of the 7th division that put up resistance in the Tongduchon and Phochon areas were demolished by the violent strike and siege of the KPA infantry and tanks and the 3rd and 9th regiments were routed after sustaining huge losses. The 2nd division that rushed to support the 7th division was also put to run. When KPA tanks roared by, its soldiers began to leave their trenches and survivors fled to the nearby hills like water permeating the soil.

The south Korean forces which the US claimed as the strongest in Asia collapsed virtually.

The troops fled southward like startled cattle and horses. Among them were those who took the clothes of civilians at the point of guns and joined the crowds of refugees.

KPA flying corps launched a bombing raid on Kimpho and Youido airports from June 26.

The formations of the pursuit plane group made a surprise attack on Seoul Railway Station to blast the enemy's troop trains.

At 22:00 on June 26 Kim Il Sung called the forward command post by phone to issue an order to liberate Seoul without delay.

The KPA forces increased the speed of offensive and took hold of favourable lines for attack by the night of June 27, getting ready for combat.

The astonished south Korean troops made a desperate attempt to defend the city at any cost.

At 21:30 on June 26 Syngman Rhee told US ambassador Muccio that he would retreat to the south. The latter objected to the suggestion to save his face as American master. Though he had said he would not withdraw, the former fled on a third-class compartment without windows a few hours later. Then Muccio, too, hurried away to Suwon on the early morning of June 27 after burning up secret documents on the aggressive policy towards the DPRK and without notifying to the AMAG and the south Korean army.

The KPA launched the battle to liberate Seoul on the morning of June 28. Prior to the general offensive, a tank battalion and a motorized infantry battalion charged into the city to hit the enemy from the rear.

After a 20-minute preparatory fire the general offensive started.

The tank combined unit was the first to attack and occupy major targets in cooperation with the advance small units.

The 3rd infantry division made an onslaught from the north and east and rushed into the city at 8:00 on June 28 and the 4th infantry division smashed the enemy troops along the Chongryang-ri line jointly with the tank combined unit, occupying different places in the city.

Tank 312 which entered Seoul ahead of others crushed the resisting enemy and occupied the Capitol Building in an instant, flying the DPRK flag on top of it.

Meanwhile, a tank unit captured the Mapho prison and set free more than 1

000 patriots before seizing the Provost Marshal Headquarters.

The main force of the tank brigade led by Commander Ryu Kyong Su smashed the enemy troops in cooperation with a motorized infantry unit and captured the Sodaemun prison detaining 7 000 patriots.

KPA troops took hold of a broadcasting station and other major agencies one after another. Units under the command of the 4th infantry division occupied the US embassy. The 3rd infantry division and a tank unit also destroyed the enemy troops, rounding off the street warfare.

At 11:30 on June 28 the KPA liberated the whole of Seoul.

This meant that the KPA destroyed the main group of the south Korean army in three days after the outbreak of the war, holding the initiative and disabling the command system of the south Korean troops. The US forces which started the war in high spirits were stupefied by the heavy blow of the KPA.

After the liberation of Seoul Kim Il Sung sent congratulations to all the people, the KPA and Seoul citizens.

The 3rd and 4th infantry divisions were conferred the title of Seoul 3rd and 4th infantry divisions and the 9th tank brigade was promoted to a division and conferred the title of Seoul 105th Tank Division.

Battle of Osan, shattered myth

Upon instruction of Truman to send the US ground force to the Korean front, the 7th, 24th and 25th divisions and the 1st cavalry division of the US forces in Japan left for Korea in succession.

The Americans dispatched a battalion of the 24th division as an advance detachment. It is Smith's special attack unit which was vanquished by the KPA troops at the Osan line, the first defeat of the US forces.

Most of the officers of the over 400-strong unit had fought the Second

World War.

With the mission to defend the Osan line the battalion occupied Jungmi Pass north of Osan at 3:00 on July 5 and trumpeted that the communist army would retreat as soon as it realized whom it was fighting with.

Since the KPA was to fight in real earnest with the US forces which were pouncing upon arrogantly, styling themselves as the “strongest” in the world, Kim Il Sung made up his mind to deal a telling blow to them from the beginning, fixing them as the major target of attack.

He ordered the KPA to deal a decisive blow to them by concentrating power.

At 10:00 on July 5 1950 the advance detachment of the KPA tank division was confronted with Smith’s special attack unit at the Osan line.

The tank combined unit arrived afterwards and immediately turned over to offensive without waiting for the infantry unit.

The tankmen who were in the van of the pursuit formation crushed the enemy troops mercilessly without stopping and forced their way into the depth of defence to bring under their control the 105 mm howitzer emplacements of the US forces, block the way of their retreat and prevent the access of their reinforcements.

At the time when the Americans were bragging that the north Korean army might retreat after being subjected to 20-minute artillery firing, describing the moment when the US forces fired the first shell to a KPA tank as a historic moment when the US took part in war for the first time after WWII, the brave KPA tankmen were smashing the defence of Smith’s unit, dashing towards the enemy’s emplacements.

Therefore, the US 52nd field artillery battalion was eliminated incapable of resisting much.

The other tank unit and an infantry unit which were following the advance tank unit struck the US special unit simultaneously from the front and sides.

When the enemy were paying their attention to the KPA combatants who seized Height 113 and charged from the front, the infantry unit approached the eastern ridge of the height by stealth and destroyed the enemy's heavy machine guns with hand grenades.

The infantrymen jumped into the enemy's trenches and mercilessly wiped them out with hand-to-hand fight.

When his unit was on the brink of extermination due to the KPA's siege and violent attack, Smith fled to Ansong with his underlings who narrowly escaped death. The American survivors in the battle of Osan numbered only 85.

In about two hours the KPA infantry and tanks completely encircled and annihilated Smith's unit, destroying the enemy's defence in the Osan line.

According to US military information, the special attack unit sustained the death and missing of over 150, capture of 72 and destruction of all guns of the 105 mm howitzer battalion and many other weapons and equipment.

He was so horrified in the battle of Osan that Smith later wrote in his war memoirs to the following effect:

It was indeed a desperate situation. Lots of soldiers were wounded and we were out of communication facilities, means of transport and ammunition. The enemy's tanks were in my rear. The hellish circumstances put me in an utter predicament.

We fought our way to Chonan. I looked wretched without cap and the soldiers who came there alive were more unsightly. Some of them had no weapon and shoes and some others were wearing only underwear and they were in myriads of forms.

This way, we were pursued and killed, unable to shoot a single shot in the face of the powerful assault of the dauntless KPA.

Victory was impossible from the beginning. The reality proved that the KPA was really far stronger than we had expected whereas we were not so

strong an army as we had pretended to be.

I believe that the Korean war will remain for ever as the first record of the shameful US defeat in its history of war.

Like this, the ground troops of the US Army lost the first battle in Korea and since then US troops continued to be on the run and beaten.

Fight between heavy cruiser and torpedo boats

The US military that sustained repeated defeat in the face of fiery counter-offensive of the KPA decided to throw in the Korean front their naval force as well as ground and air forces in a desperate attempt to check the KPA's attack.

Accordingly, the mobile detached squadron of the US 7th Fleet set sail to the East Sea of Korea and bombarded roads, bridges and other important installations and even houses of civilians from the waters off the Mokpho, Kangnung and Samchok areas as part of the bid to hinder the KPA combined unit from advancing along the east coastal area.

To ensure the successful counteroffensive of the main units of the KPA the Supreme Commander ordered the commander of the KPA Navy on June 30 1950 to destroy the group of US warships in the East Sea with torpedo boats.

To his order four torpedo boats of the 2nd Torpedo Boat Fleet departed from Sokcho Port at 0:00 on July 2 1950 in search of US warships.

They looked for the enemy's naval vessels in a combat formation, but the enemy had already left the expected location.

The KPA seamen continued their search operation until 4:53 towards day-break when they detected a group of US warships in the waters off Jumunjin.

Heavy cruiser USS Baltimore (17 000 tons), light cruiser (12 000 tons) and destroyer (3 000 tons) approached the course of the torpedo boat fleet, revealing their pompous shapes.

Each of the KPA torpedo boats was 21 metres long with a displacement of 17 tons and armed with two torpedoes and an anti-aircraft machine gun. The Baltimore was 205 metres long and loaded with 69 guns of different calibres, aircraft and 1 700-strong crew. At the time 13 000 torpedo boats could be built at the cost of constructing such a heavy cruiser.

The four torpedo boats of the KPA fought against the three large vessels equipped with 170 guns of different calibres. It was an awful contrast in strength between them. It was unprecedented in the world history of naval warfare that such small boats attacked such a group of big warships.

The US vessels drew nearer to the boats at high speed.

The courageous KPA sailors got ready to attack from favourable locations.

They lured the enemy, moving as if they were returning to their base while maintaining their combat formation.

Duped by the torpedo boats, the American warships took a short cut across the course to encircle the KPA boats.

When the enemy vessels came within the range of 800 metres, torpedo boat 22 in the van charged to the Baltimore as swift as an arrow. The heavy cruiser opened fire at the boats.

The Korean sailors decided to make a continuous dispersed charge by taking advantage of the enemy's weak point.

The torpedo boats launched torpedoes repeatedly from different distances, hitting and sinking the heavy cruiser, and also damaged the light cruiser.

The sinking of the heavy cruiser, of which the US boasted as a "moving island", by torpedo boats was a military miracle unheard-of in the world history of naval battle.

Until then, the Americans had been describing the battle of Leyte Gulf as the "most brilliant victory" in their history of naval fight as they had sunk a Japanese heavy cruiser with their aircraft carrier, destroyers and aircraft in the

waters off Samar in October 1944.

But the KPA Navy sank the US heavy cruiser with torpedo boats in the Korean war.

World media dubbed the sinking of the cruiser with torpedo boats a miracle, not a battle, in praise of the KPA Navy's feat.

Liberation of Taejon, Dean captured

At the council of war of the front headquarters on July 16 1950 Kim Il Sung made a speech under the title of **On Successfully Conducting the Operation of Liberating Taejon and Further Increasing the Speed of Southward Advance of Frontline Combined Units.**

On the order of him KPA combined units launched the action to lay a siege to the city.

On the evening of July 18 the 18th infantry regiment of the KPA left on the mission of cutting off the retreat of the enemy by making a detour in the direction of the southeast.

The high-spirited infantrymen made a 40-kilometre forced march overnight, crossing rugged mountains, and blocked the roads between Taejon and Kum-san and between Taejon and Yongdong.

The KPA units on an assignment to strike Taejon from the southwest liberated Yusong at sunset on July 19 and closed in on the city.

Those marching along the Chongju-Taejon road crossed the Kum River and advanced to Umnae-ri north of Taejon on the evening of July 19 to cut off the road between Chungju and Taejon and besiege the city.

The movements of the KPA units for encircling Taejon were so stealthy and swift that Dean, commander of the US 24th division, did not believe the report of the search party of the south Korean forces that detected KPA troops at the

foot of Mt. Kubong south of the city. He asserted that the communist army could never arrive there overnight no matter how fast they might be.

The American generals who were accustomed to blustering were unaware of the elusive and adroit military tactics and art of command of Kim Il Sung until then.

A US military commentator said that the KPA employed such a tactics as to make a frontal attack on the defending forces in order to fetter them and make them impossible to retreat, and as to advance to their rear through bypassing or infiltrating and intercept their retreat. He claimed that it was impossible for Dean or any other commanders to grasp the situation of their rear at any particular time, adding that it was a tactics which American commanders could not understand before it was too late.

At 5:00 on July 20 1950 Kim Il Sung issued an order to attack Taejon City.

KPA combined units launched decisive and courageous actions to annihilate the trapped enemy.

Prior to the attack, two tanks, an infantry platoon on board the tanks and the reconnoitring platoon of the 18th infantry regiment dashed into the city first to assault the US and south Korean troops and throw them into turmoil.

By taking advantage of the thick mist the tankmen sneaked into the city and ran over 20 enemy trucks standing close in a place.

While tank 418 poured fire at the enemy's troop trains and oil bunker at Taejon Railway Station, tank 422 inflicted a wholesale death on the enemy downtown.

The infantry platoon made surprise attacks on the enemy wherever they went and the reconnoitring platoon who finished reconnaissance went into buildings around the railway station to launch into action.

At that time the infantry combined units that were in the northern, north-western, western and southwestern suburbs of Taejon simultaneously charged

to the city with gunfire support and preceded by tanks.

KPA units seized major targets after fighting fierce battles with the enemy troops who put up desperate resistance in streets and alleys.

Artillery units rained heavy fires on the enemy's artillery emplacements and places of rendezvous to subdue and demolish them and back up the charge of the KPA troops while destroying the enemy's shell magazines, airport and other military installations.

As to the adroit military actions of the KPA small units in the battle of Taejon, a Japanese publication wrote:

“At dawn two tanks rolled into Taejon City from the direction of Seoul. Infantrymen who alighted from the tanks slipped into buildings in the surrounding area to snipe. The tanks targeted the supply company of the 34th regiment and blew up the kitchen and ammunition wagons. The streets were all in flames and fumes.”

The city turned into a shambles as American and south Korean troops were seized with fear and despair.

As the US forces decided to give up Taejon, they threw shells and other military materiel into the river and set to stealing out of the city along the Taejon-Kumsan road.

But they sustained wholesale death in an ambush by the units belonging to the KPA 18th infantry regiment blocking the road and withdrew.

The remnants of the defeated US troops attempted to retreat along the Taejon-Kimchon road this time, only to suffer a heavy blow.

The 18th infantry regiment cut off US reinforcement and dealt a deadly blow to the enemy fleeing from Taejon.

The KPA flying corps strafed the American and south Korean troops in chaos.

The US 24th division, a so-called invincible division, was destroyed by the KPA's fierce attack and the division commander on the run was captured by a KPA soldier.

Under the leadership of Supreme Commander **Kim Il Sung**, an outstanding military strategist, the KPA combined units liberated Taejon, the enemy's military strategic base and hub of political administration, at 12:00 on July 20.

In the battle to liberate the city the KPA killed, wounded and captured 24 228 US and south Korean troops and demolished or captured 1 000 trucks, over 150 guns of different calibres, 49 tanks, some 20 000 small arms and many other combat and technical equipment.

Thanks to the Juche-oriented military tactics and art of command of **Kim Il Sung**, the attempt to defend Taejon on which the US pinned its hopes so much came to naught.

He gave thanks to the KPA units that took part in the battle in an order dated July 23 1950. On July 26 the title of guards was conferred on the Seoul 105th Tank Division, the Seoul 3rd Infantry Division and the 18th Infantry Regiment and on July 28 and August 19 the same title was awarded to the 56th Pursuit Plane Regiment and the Seoul 4th Infantry Division.

Shattering of Christmas general offensive

The US forces, which were driven away to the limited shore of the South Sea by the KPA's irresistible attack, made desperate attempts to recover their image marred under the eyes of the world.

The Americans shipped into the Korean front 300 000-strong force involving all the ground, naval and air forces in the Pacific, some of the Mediterranean Fleet and troops from its 15 satellite countries.

They launched a landing operation at Inchon by mobilizing more than 54 000 troops, over 300 warships and nearly 1 000 aircraft and at the same time staged a general offensive all along the line of the Raktong River with hundreds of thousands of troops.

The KPA was compelled to start a strategic temporary retreat while holding in check the enemy through an adroit mobile defence and a continuous war of attrition.

Despite huge losses caused by the KPA's powerful strike and persevering defence, the US troops occupied many parts of the north of Korea by relying on their numerical upper hand.

The Americans prepared for a large-scale Christmas general offensive to occupy the north before Christmas at any cost.

They calculated that before long they could exact surrender documents on the Tuman and Amnok rivers with their strength.

MacArthur said he promised families of the soldiers of the 24th division that he would send them back home before Christmas and he was intended to complete the operation as early as possible.

He flew to the headquarters of the US 1st corps in Anju, acquainted himself with the preparations for the general offensive and announced a so-called declaration of victory. And then he flew over the Amnok River area by his plane to confirm the situation of the front.

But he was not prudent enough to think that his troops were deployed along the vast front spreading for over 400 kilometres from the estuary of the Chongchon River to the Orang River.

As the US 8th and 10th corps that proceeded northward were far apart from each other, it was impossible to ensure unified command and so they took combat actions separately without cooperation.

Kim Il Sung decided to switch over to a counteroffensive in the overall front with the direction of main attack set in the west of the front and encircle and annihilate the enemy's main groups on the shores of the Chongchon River and Lake Jangjin and the Hamhung and Chongjin areas through a positive combined operation between the main units and the second front units behind the enemy lines.

He foresaw that the enemy would begin the Christmas general offensive around November 24 at the latest and made up his mind to beat off the enemy's offensive in the forward defence area with the advance units when the enemy would commit

their troops to make a breakthrough in the KPA's front line and then turn over to a powerful counteroffensive. Therefore, the KPA's D-day was set for November 25.

As he had foreseen, the US troops launched the Christmas general offensive on November 24.

KPA units responded to it with powerful counterattack. Fierce battles took place everywhere.

They destroyed enemy units including the British 27th brigade, the US 25th division, 2nd division and 1st cavalry division and the Turkish 17th brigade through continued siege.

As to the crushing defeat suffered by US troops in the Chongchon River area, a south Korean newspaper said:

“From November 26, less than two full days after the launch of the offensive, the US 8th army began to collapse. It became unable to make coordinated attack any longer. Harassed by battles of small units below the company level, it was compelled to retreat southward. General MacArthur's offensive ceased and General Walker could not but make desperate efforts to avoid extermination.”

As he was unable to avert the destruction of the 8th army, MacArthur asked Washington to dispatch 74 000 troops.

At that time there was only the 82nd airborne division in the US and no more than two divisions were available in Europe for dispatch.

So, the US Joint Chiefs of Staff could not respond to his request.

When enemy troops were floundering in an uncontrollable confusion, the KPA encircled and demolished the main force of the US 1st and 9th corps and the south Korean 2nd corps in the Chongchon River area between November 30 and the dawn of December 1 and furthered the achievements southward.

While the 8th army, the main force of the US forces, was pulling back, sustaining huge losses in the line of the Chongchon River, the US 10th corps was suffering miserable defeat in the areas of Chongjin and Lake Jangjin in the

east of the front.

Particularly, the US 1st marine division, which sneaked its way into the shores of Lake Jangjin in a bid to intrude into the northern border area on the upper reaches of the Amnok River, was preparing for an attack without noticing that it was entrapped by the tactics of allurement.

In accordance with the operational policy of the Supreme Commander, KPA combined units in the east of the front repulsed the desperate attack of the US 10th corps and launched into a counterattack at 20:00 on November 27, encircling and annihilating enemy troops by compressing them into the areas of Sindae-ri, Ryudam-ri, Karu-ri and Kotho-ri around the lake.

A correspondent from *The New York Herald Tribune* who went to Karu-ri by air ambulance wrote that the officers and men of the US 1st marine division were dressed in rags and their faces swollen at cutting wind were covered with blood.

Smith, commander of the division, made a desperate attack under cover of 100 aircraft and with some 30 tanks ahead, driving the British marine reserve as bullet-shield. But most of his troops were killed, wounded and captured by KPA units' pincer attack.

To rescue the main force of the 10th corps under siege, the US 3rd division in the Wonsan area shipped a regiment to Hungnam and the 26th regiment of the south Korean 3rd division and the tank battalion of the US 1st marine division made an attack, only to suffer wholesale deaths in the encirclement ring of KPA units.

The KPA units switched over to counteroffensive and chased and wiped out the routing US and south Korean troops, liberating Chongjin, Kilju, Kim Chaek, Pukchong and other areas one after another.

The Christmas general offensive ended in a shameful fiasco of the US forces.

Defeating the US offensive, the KPA crushed and expelled the US 9th and 1st corps and the 7th and 8th divisions under the 2nd corps of the south Korean army in the west of the front and the 1st marine division and 7th division under the US

10th corps and the main units of the south Korean 1st corps in the east of the front.

US weekly magazine *Time* dated December 11 described the defeat as the most disastrous one the US had ever suffered and General Ridgway also confessed that the defeat was severe and tragic.

The US admitted that the crushing defeat in the Christmas general offensive was the greatest failure in the history of its army.

The doom of defeated generals

Dean

He commanded the US 44th division in Germany and Austria during the Second World War and performed feats in crushing the Japanese forces and conquering the Philippines.

MacArthur placed the US 24th division under his command as he had such a brilliant career and sent him to the Korean front before anybody else.

He had a narrow escape from the KPA encirclement in the battle of Taejon, but was captured by a young KPA soldier.

He had used to say that to be captured alive was the most disgraceful for a serviceman.

MacArthur

He fought the First World War as a regiment commander and later served as the army chief of staff and commander of the US forces in the Philippines. After Japan's defeat in August 1945 he was promoted to commander-in-chief of the US occupation forces in Japan and commander-in-chief of the US Armed Forces in the Far East. At the time he styled himself Napoleon in the Orient.

When the KPA made a strategic temporary retreat, he promised to make his soldiers celebrate Christmas holidays at home after conquering the

whole of Korea.

For the repeated defeats by the KPA's counteroffensives, he was dismissed from the commandship of the US forces in the Far East and the UN Forces.

Referring to his dismissal, he later deplored, saying that there was neither hearing about the situation nor consideration of his past services, so he got no chance to explain, and that such an outrageous instance as his removal could never be found in history.

He also said employees, even messenger or cleaner or other lower-grade personnel in office, would never be fired in such an impolite manner.

Smith

He commanded the US 1st marine division, which boasted of being the "spring in the Arctic" and "flower of the marine", in the Korean front and earned the disgraceful name of "grave general".

His division set foot in the Lake Jangjin area during the strategic temporary retreat of the KPA, only to suffer wholesale deaths.

After being besieged by the KPA there, the division was shipped out of Hungnam. In those days it lost over 12 000 troops.

Walker

As the US 3rd corps commander he earned a nickname "bulldog" for his distinguished services.

As soon as he appeared in the Korean front as commander of the US 8th army, he ordered: "The soldiers of the UN Forces! ... Don't let your hands tremble even when those who appear before you are children or old people. Kill them! In doing so you will be saving yourselves from catastrophe and fulfilling your duty as the soldiers of the UN Forces."

The murderous general was administered due punishment by the KPA

soldiers.

He was killed, caught in a trap of mine warfare waged by the KPA, together with some 80 other American officers in Ryonchon while on the run from its counterattack.

Ridgway

Known as an elaborate operations planner, he was the deputy army chief of staff before assuming the command of the US 8th army after Walker was killed.

When MacArthur was fired, he was promoted to his post as commander of the UN Forces. He ordered to use germ and chemical weapons in the Korean war, gaining notoriety as “pest and cholera general”.

As one of the first US airborne division commanders, he clinched successive victories. But in the Korean war he suffered successive defeats. So he was labelled an “incompetent general” by his seniors and sacked from the position of the UN Commander after only one year.

Van Fleet

He assumed the command of the US 8th army after Ridgway. The “competent general” tried hard to wrap up the battle of T-shaped Height, the prelude to the “new offensive” designed by Eisenhower, as a model battle in order to show his seniors that he recovered the reputation of the US forces, but in vain like his predecessors.

He was also branded “incompetent” and sent back home.

Truman

The joint meeting of the Senate Foreign Relations and Armed Services committees severely censured President Truman who started the Korean war,

describing him as a fool and demanding to drive him out of the White House.

Eisenhower

During World War II he was appointed supreme commander of the Allied expeditionary forces and became a five-star general after commanding the successful landing in Normandy and military operations in Germany. In January 1953 he was sworn in as the 34th US president. He planned a “new offensive” vouching for a victorious end of the Korean war, but sustained a series of failures due to the adroit tactical operations of the KPA.

He became the first defeated US president after surrendering to the KPA.

Clark

On May 7 1952 Truman appointed him to replace Ridgway as commander of the UN Forces and dispatched him to Tokyo.

As commander of the US 5th army during the Second World War, he planned Operation Avalanche and accepted the surrender of the German forces in Italy and Mussolini’s troops.

He laughed at MacArthur and Ridgway who underwent repeated failures in the Korean front, covetous of their posts. And as soon as he took their position he launched large-scale “strangulation” operations with a view to “leaving nothing to be swept in north Korea”, which ended in a total failure.

After signing the Korean Armistice Agreement, he said that he “gained the unenviable distinction of being the first United States Army Commander in history to sign an armistice agreement without victory” and he felt everything was a failure.

He also noted that there had never been a war without victory in the US history, but in the Korean war it signed for the first time in history an armistice without victory and that was grievous and deplorable.

Bradley

Former chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, he himself admitted that the Korean war was a great military catastrophe and that the US waged the “wrong war at the wrong place, at the wrong time and with the wrong enemy.”

Victory on July 27

On July 27 1953, the Fatherland Liberation War ended in a brilliant victory on the part of the Korean People’s Army and the Korean people.

Kim Il Sung, chairman of the Central Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea, premier of the Cabinet, chairman of the Military Commission and supreme commander of the KPA, devised outstanding strategic and tactical policies and unique fighting methods based on Juche-oriented military ideology at every stage of the war and led the KPA to victory by translating them into practice.

Expressing what he had felt when he was chief of staff of the Portuguese forces in Macao during the Korean war, former Portuguese President Gomes said that at the time the US planned military operations after several rounds of discussion with dozens of generals, chiefs of staff and military experts from the western nations siding with the US. But General Kim Il Sung defeated them single-handedly and I saw it with my own eyes and came to know that he was the most ingenious military strategist and greatest military commander ever known in the world, he noted.

On October 23 1996 personages from the US military, Department of State and political and academic circles held a symposium, in which they talked about President Kim Il Sung as a distinguished military commander to the following effect:

Lenin and Stalin are called geniuses because the former won over the army

and made it rise in revolt against capitalism for the first time in the Russian history and the latter was a brilliant commander who destroyed the troops of Hitler who had been claimed to have a surprisingly high ability of military command.

...One of the important reasons why President Kim Il Sung is recognized as the most outstanding great man in the history of modern politics is that he was also a rare master of military affairs, who defeated the one-million-strong Japanese Kwantung Army with guerrilla warfare in his 20s and after Korea's liberation squarely fought the UN allied forces including the US with only three to four newly organized divisions.

The KPA won brilliant victory in the Fatherland Liberation War under the leadership of Kim Il Sung, humbling the US which bragged about being the "strongest" in the world, shattering to pieces the myth of its "mightiness" and marking the beginning of the downfall of US imperialism.

The Americans mistook the Korean people.

The US had looked down on the DPRK so much at the time that after instigating the war by setting the south Korean troops on the DPRK, it attempted to hinder the KPA's counteroffensive by flying a few war planes at the outset, and committed only a battalion to the direction of KPA's main attack involving several of its crack divisions as it dispatched its ground forces to the front.

It acknowledged its arrogance and failure though belatedly and brought all of its some dozen crack divisions into the front and sent all highly-reputed generals to Korea in order to retrieve the situation.

It also flew war planes of latest models including B-29 strategic bomber, known as "air fortress", B-26, F-51, and F-80 into Korea to stage indiscriminate bombing in the areas deep into the rear as well as frontline areas.

The Korean war was literally an exhibition of the American numerical and

technological superiority and the experimental ground of strategy and tactics of the American generals.

Kim Il Sung led the KPA which was rebuilt into a regular army only two years before to overpower the US.

His military strategy and art of command destroyed the crack divisions and regiments in succession including the US 24th, 25th, 2nd divisions, the 1st marine division and the 1st cavalry division, the 7th, 5th, 3rd, 40th and 45th divisions and separate regiment, divesting them of their repute as “invincible division”, “victorious division”, “spring in the Arctic” and “rock regiment” and reducing them to “death division”, “defeated division” and “grave division”.

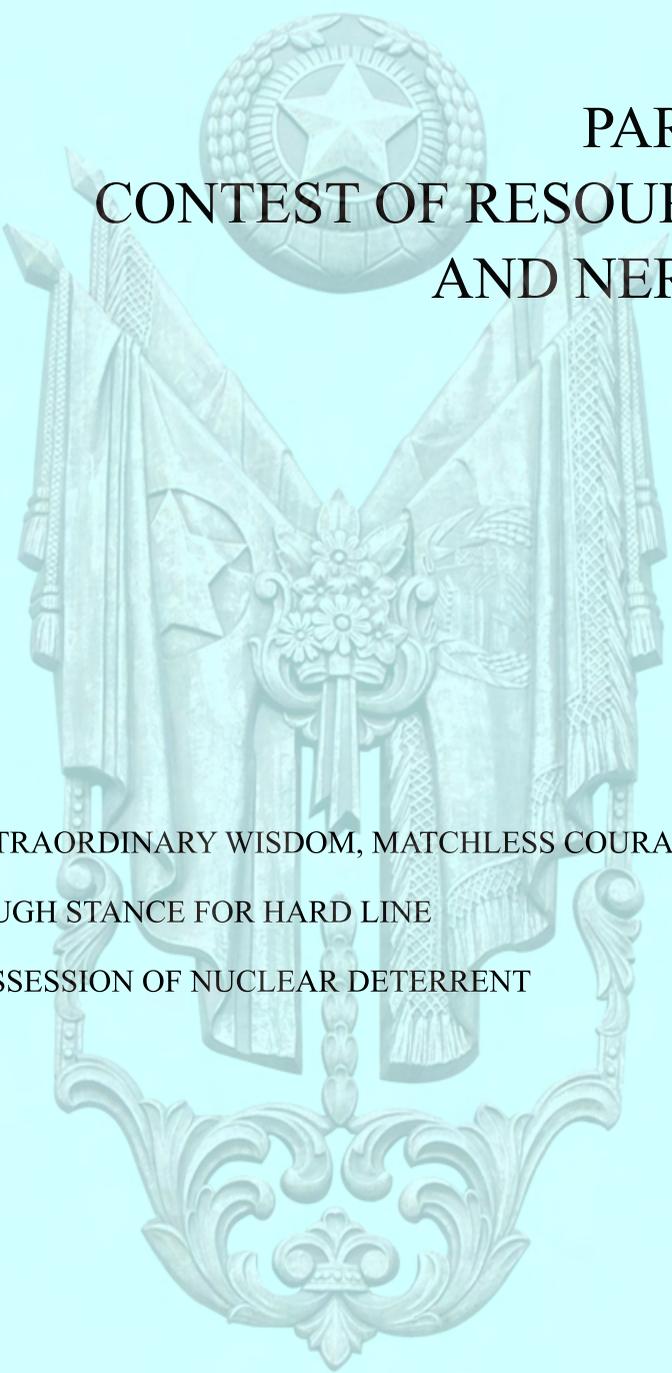
During the war the KPA killed, wounded and captured 405 498 American troops, 1 130 965 south Korean servicemen and 30 665 soldiers of the satellite states of the US, 1 567 128 in all, and destroyed, shot down, sank and captured 925 152 firearms, 7 695 guns, 3 255 tanks and armoured vehicles, 13 350 trucks, 12 224 war planes and 564 warships.

It was an appalling loss to the US, nearly 2.3 times as much as it had sustained in the four-year war in the Pacific.

Former US Secretary of Defense Marshall summed up the Korean war, deploring that the “myth (of the US mightiness) exploded to atoms, and it became clear to everyone that the United States was not so strong as others had thought her to be.”

The DPRK began to celebrate July 27 when the US signed the Korean Armistice Agreement as the day of victory.

Whenever fireworks explode in the sky of Pyongyang in celebration of the day, all the KPA service personnel and the Korean people pay tribute to President Kim Il Sung in humble reverence for the outstanding military strategist.

The emblem of the Ministry of Defence of the Russian Federation is centered in the background. It features a five-pointed star within a circular wreath of oak leaves, positioned above a shield. The shield is supported by two crossed flags: the Russian national flag on the left and the Order of the Patriotic War flag on the right. The shield is adorned with a central floral ornament and a sword. The entire emblem is set against a light blue background.

PART II

CONTEST OF RESOURCE AND NERVE

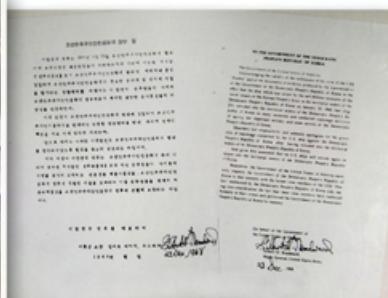
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2. TOUGH STANCE FOR HARD LINE 75
3. POSSESSION OF NUCLEAR DETERRENT 110



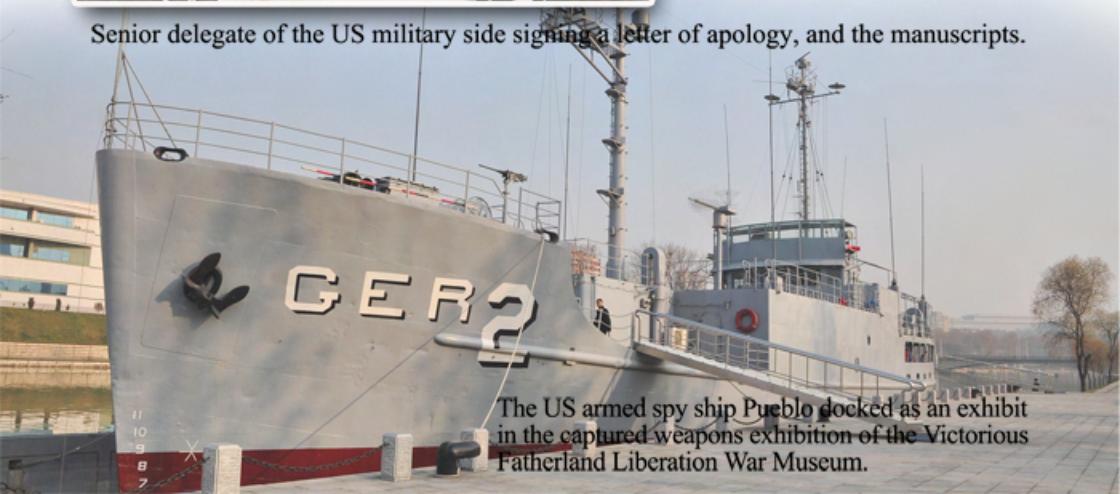
Chairman Kim Jong Il waving back to the columns in the parade of the Worker-Peasant Red Guards held in celebration of the 90th birthday of President Kim Il Sung and the 70th anniversary of the Korean People's Army on April 25 Juche 91(2002).



The crew of the US armed spy ship Pueblo captured by the KPA.



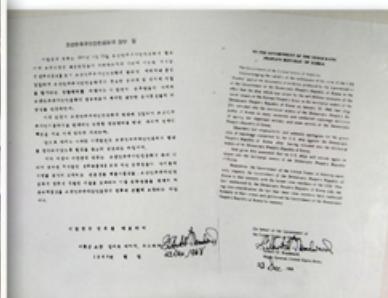
Senior delegate of the US military side signing a letter of apology, and the manuscripts.



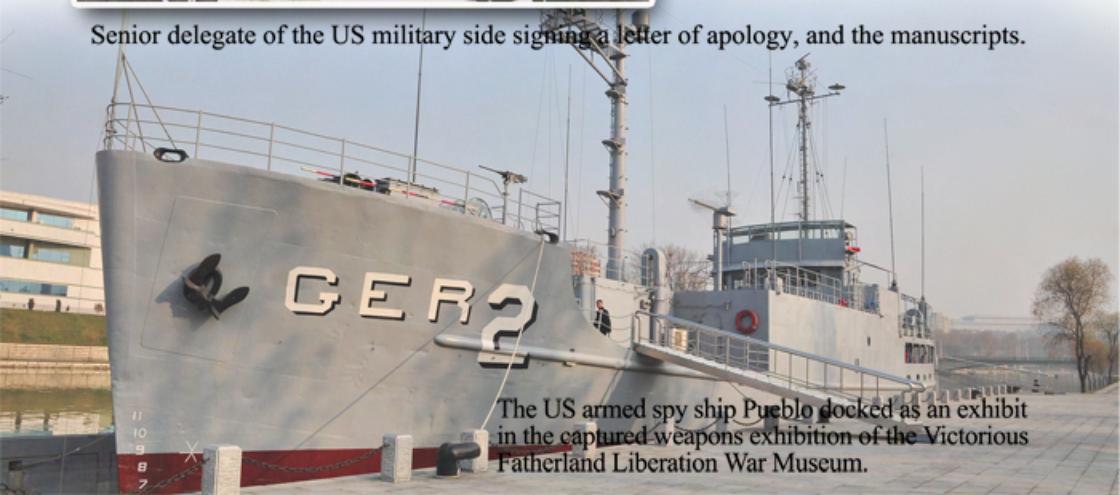
The US armed spy ship Pueblo docked as an exhibit in the captured weapons exhibition of the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum.



The crew of the US armed spy ship Pueblo captured by the KPA.



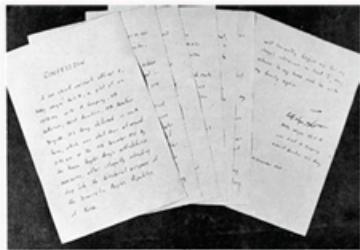
Senior delegate of the US military side signing a letter of apology, and the manuscripts.



The US armed spy ship Pueblo docked as an exhibit in the captured weapons exhibition of the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum.



A US army CH-47 plane downed on a spying flight mission over the DPRK's military installations and the captured pilot.



The debris of a US army helicopter gunned down on a reconnaissance flight over the DPRK, its pilot and his handwritten confession.



Pyongyang mass rally held to support KPA Supreme Commander's Order No. 0034 On declaring a state of war readiness for the whole country, all the people and the entire army in March 1993.

...to facilitate arrangements for the financing and construction of a light-water nuclear power reactor project within the DPRK, and the funding and implementation of interim energy alternatives for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea pending completion of the first reactor unit of the light-water reactor project. In addition, in the event that this reactor project is not completed for reasons beyond the control of the DPRK, I will use the full powers of my office to provide, to the extent necessary, such a project from the United States, subject to approval of the U.S. Congress. Similarly, in the event that the interim energy alternatives are not provided for reasons beyond the control of the DPRK, I will use the full powers of my office to provide, to the extent necessary, such interim energy alternatives from the United States, subject to the approval of the U.S. Congress.

I will follow this course of action so long as the DPRK continues to demonstrate good faith in its efforts to reach an agreement between the United States of America and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

Bill Clinton
 4100 Resolute Blvd
 Suite 111
 Supreme Leader of the
 Democratic People's Republic of Korea
 Pyongyang



Letter of the US president dated October 20 1994 as regards assurances for the implementation of the DPRK-US Agreed Framework.

DPRK and US delegates signing the DPRK-US Joint Statement.



KPA Supreme Commander Kim Jong Il's special envoy meeting with President Clinton in October 2000.



US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright on a visit to Pyongyang.

Part II CONTEST OF RESOURCE AND NERVE

Upon signing the armistice agreement, the US began to renege on it, openly violating its articles.

It drastically beefed up its forces in south Korea, while shipping in a huge quantity of military and technological equipment and scaling up the joint military drills with south Korea.

It escalated threat and blackmail against the DPRK with the passage of time.

The military confrontation between the DPRK and the US went on. The decades-long face-off was indeed a contest of intelligence, a contest of courage.

President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il wisely led the KPA and the Korean people to a brilliant victory in this showdown which had no parallel in history.

The US emerged as the “only superpower” in the world after the demise of the cold war. Taking advantage of the breakup of the balance of power on the international stage, it put spurs to the scheme to realize world domination by dint of power politics.

To strangle the DPRK it came out with the “suspicious nuclear weapons development” and nuclear inspection of the bulwark of socialism.

The DPRK-targeted Team Spirit joint war exercises continued and the imperialist allied forces and some international organizations joined in those reckless US schemes to isolate and stifle the country.

In those grim days Kim Jong Il led the DPRK-US showdown to continued victories, turning unfavourable situation into favourable one with matchless courage and brilliant intelligence.

On in-depth analysis of the DPRK's leader who always won with protean tactics, brilliant military wisdom, unrivalled courage and matchless grit, the American K. J. I (Kim Jong Il) Institute drew the following conclusion:

The related American authorities are requested to pay heed to the conclusion. The characteristics of the leadership of Supreme Commander Kim Jong Il of north Korea are

First, accuracy in judgment,

Second, resoluteness in decision, and

Third, mercilessness in strike.

The world still remembers the preeminent leadership of the invincible Songun commander, who safeguarded the dignity of the country without an iota of concession in the showdown with the US which styled itself the "only superpower".

1. Extraordinary wisdom, matchless courage

Pueblo incident

On January 23 1968 the KPA Navy vessels on a normal maritime patrol mission captured the US armed spy ship Pueblo (with a displacement of some 1 000 tonnage) which conducted espionage activities after intruding into the waters (39° 17' 4" North Latitude, 127° 46' 9" East Longitude) 7.6 miles from Ryo Islet near Wonsan and over 80 personnel on board.

An armed spy ship dispatched by the CIA, it was equipped with a variety of modern precision spying facilities to intercept radio waves and

locate military bases.

Marked on the maps of the sailors were the locations of the DPRK's military bases and recorded in the ship's log were the facts that by order of their senior it set sail from Sasebo port, Japan, in December 1967 and intruded into the DPRK's territorial waters several times to conduct spying activities.

The capture of the Pueblo was the DPRK's exercise of its sovereignty and the KPA's self-defensive measure to defend national dignity and security.

US President Johnson, who received the emergency report on it at 2:00 am, threatened to retaliate the DPRK like a thief crying "Stop thief!", arguing that the ship was in international waters and did not do any spying activities.

The US held National Security Council meetings on the 24th and 25th and decided to take military retaliatory measures.

Accordingly, it moved the flotilla comprising the nuclear-powered carrier USS Enterprise and four destroyers on the way to Vietnam to the waters off the Korean peninsula. It also hastily flew a wing to south Korea and ordered an emergency alert to its forces in south Korea and Japan.

It then dispatched aircraft carriers, the Yorktown and the Ranger, and the armed spy ship Banner in succession and threatened to bomb Wonsan, take away the ship and blow up an airport, driving the situation to the brink of war.

On January 26, three days after the Pueblo was captured, an ambassador in Pyongyang officially conveyed the message of his government advising that it would be better to release the ship and the sailors in the open sea as the incident would have grave consequences.

The international community wondered if the DPRK could withstand the showdown with the US, which was running amok, bringing the dark cloud of war over it, and which advocated revenge by wielding nuclear stick, and what decision the US would make.

At the juncture when the world focused attention on the DPRK, Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il sat together.

Kim Il Sung asked him if he had any idea of how to deal with the Pueblo and what he would do if he were the KPA supreme commander.

Kim Jong Il answered decisively that he would neither release the sailors of the Pueblo unless the Americans submitted surrender documents nor return the spy ship even if they did so as it was a war trophy and that he would put it on display at a museum in the future to tell the younger generations that it was a spy ship the KPA captured from the US.

Kim Il Sung delivered a speech on February 8, a few days after the meeting, in which he said that the DPRK did not want war, but was not afraid of it and the Korean people and the KPA would respond to the “retaliation” of the US imperialists with retaliation and an all-out war with an all-out war.

The KPA and the Korean people were placed on full alert.

The KPA suspended all of its planned artistic performances and sports competitions due to the prevailing tension.

After being informed of this, Kim Jong Il told military officials that the more arrogantly the US threatened to start a new war, the more loudly they should sing and the more composedly they should arrange joyous sports games, a terrible shock to the enemy. As a result, the KPA’s celebrations took place, the people’s delegations visited army units and the national conference of agricultural workers was held as scheduled.

Finally, the US gave in to Kim Jong Il, who composedly dealt with the situation, never daunted by the formidable enemy.

At the time a foreign publication carried an article, which said that 100 personages of different political views were asked if Washington could bring Pyongyang to its knees and all of them answered that the “war ended already and Pyongyang won”.

On December 23 1968 Washington finally admitted the illegal intrusion and espionage activities of the Pueblo and formally apologized to the DPRK government.

After reading the letter of apology US President Johnson said deplorably that it was the only message of apology left by the US in its history since its foundation.

A foreign book commented on the results of the DPRK-US showdown over the Pueblo incident as follows:

“Who on earth apologized and who won in the Pueblo incident? It was the US that surrendered. Though the Pueblo and its crew were held in detention in the DPRK, the US 7th Fleet sneaked away from the Korea Strait. The US soldiers spent nearly one year as POWs and were released only after the US government admitted its violation of the DPRK’s territorial waters and published a letter of apology on December 23 the same year.

“President Johnson who lost in Korea failed to be reelected.

“The documentary on Kennedy’s Cuban Missile Crisis is repeatedly being broadcast throughout the world as well as in the US, but the DPRK-US showdown centring around the Pueblo incident and the US surrender are of more historic significance than that.”

Later, Kim Jong Il ensured that the Pueblo was moved to the place in the Taedong River where the US aggressor ship General Sherman was sunk in 1866 and the place was turned into a museum showing the history of the American invasion of Korea.

A foreign visitor said after looking round the captured spy ship: “Yankees usually claim that the Statue of Liberty and the world number one military strength are the symbols of the United States of America. It is a wrong idea. The symbol of the US is the Pueblo tied on the shore of the Taedong River as a war trophy.”

A retired rear admiral of the US Navy recalled the Pueblo incident, saying it was one of three shameful incidents in the history of the US Navy.

On January 23 2012 the Colorado state legislature of the US passed a resolution demanding its return on the anniversary of its capture.

The Pueblo, which has been detained as a war trophy for decades, is such a shame on the American public.

It brought shame once again on the US in 2013, as it was towed to the Pothong riverside as an exhibit in the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum newly built in Pyongyang.

EC-121 shot down

In April 1969 an American news agency reported about a US reconnaissance plane shot down by the KPA. It said to the following effect:

A large US reconnaissance plane has reportedly been gunned down by north Korea only 15 months after the Pueblo, the intelligence-gathering ship of the US Navy, was captured, and the Nixon administration has come to face the first grim ordeal over north Korea three months after he took office.

American newspapers quickly dubbed the downed reconnaissance plane the flying Pueblo in a bid to emphasize that it is as much serious as the Pueblo incident.

North Korea claims it shot the aircraft down as it intruded into its airspace. If it is true, the administration will be driven into a tight corner.

Waiting for the confirmation of survey results over the missing plane, the US authorities remain dumb like a mute on April 15.

Then what happened to the “flying Pueblo” and how it was gunned down? In March 1969 Supreme Commander Kim Il Sung ordered the KPA to

bring down the large spy plane EC-121, as it frequently violated the country's airspace to conduct military espionage activities.

Kim Jong Il called relevant KPA commanding officers who received the order and gave them concrete tasks to carry it out.

EC-121 was an electronic reconnaissance plane of the latest model made by the American company Lockheed. With 480 kph speed and 14 000 sq km sphere of activity, it was loaded with about 5.5 ton electronic facilities.

Saying that commanding officers should carefully organize the battle and victory should be achieved before fighting, he stressed the need to always keep in mind that they would be ever-victorious when they fought as dictated by **Kim Il Sung's** Juche-based art of war.

When they heard the marvelous operation plan made by him the KPA commanding officers were filled with confidence, fixed the aircraft and airport and selected pilots and leading navigators, completing all preparations for combat in a short time. All of them went on stand-by.

At long last, the American spy plane EC-121 appeared in the air above the East Sea of Korea on April 15 1969.

A squadron of the KPA Air Force immediately took off in hot pursuit.

Locating the enemy plane at around 13: 40, the pilots approached it as close as 2 kilometres ten minutes later and dealt a decisive strike.

EC-121 was brought down with a single shot. All 31 military personnel aboard the aircraft were killed.

It was an exercise of the right to self-defence recognized by international law to shoot down the spy plane which intruded into the country's airspace to conduct espionage against it.

The incident greatly shocked the world.

A foreign media said that the surprise attack of the north Korean air squadron was so unimaginable that the US large reconnaissance plane,

which was armed with latest scientific and technological equipment, failed to radio any message before and at the time when it was shot down. UPI noted that the downing of the modern reconnaissance plane with a shot suggested north Korea might have fired a missile. A high-ranking spokesman for the US forces in south Korea was perplexed by a shower of questions put by journalists with regard to the incident, only saying he had nothing to tell about it.

President Nixon fretted about the incident more than anyone else as it was only three months after he became the host of the White House.

He made up his mind to distort the fact as if the spy plane was brought down in the air above the international waters while “engaged in a legal reconnaissance mission” and threaten the DPRK by force of arms.

It was only natural for him to do so as he had advocated the “use of arms” when the Pueblo incident happened, arguing that if the US tolerated a small insult it would suffer bigger one.

Therefore, the US forces in Okinawa were placed on emergency alert and 10 B-52 strategic bombers and F-105 fighters were scrambled for emergency action.

On the 16th bombers and fighter jets of all kinds took off from US airbases in the western Pacific, Japan, Guam and the Philippines and flew to the air above the East Sea of Korea.

The carrier USS Kitty Hawk and two destroyers set sail from Hong Kong and American reinforcements including the battleship USS New Jersey and two carriers left the Vietnamese front for the Korean peninsula.

On the 21st the US dispatched the submarine Hornet escorted by three destroyers to the sea near the Korean peninsula and sent the 71st special naval task force comprising four carriers, three cruisers and 16 destroyers near to the Korean waters.

A touch-and-go situation was created again on the Korean peninsula.

At this juncture Kim Jong Il told the KPA commanding officers that the US aggressors could survive the Fatherland Liberation War and Pueblo incident to sign surrender documents, but if they attacked recklessly this time again they should be reduced to tiger moths perishing in the fire.

The KPA was placed in the maximum state of preparedness. The officers and men waited for the order of the Supreme Commander, filled with a firm resolve to deal a deadly blow to the invaders who tried to harm the dignity and sovereignty of the country with ceaseless armed provocations instead of drawing due lessons from the past defeats.

The US lost again. The bluffing Americans were brought down to their knees by the indomitable spirit of the DPRK.

Nixon pulled out the huge American forces concentrated in and around the Korean peninsula.

The news stunned the world once again.

All the people wondered how the DPRK, a small country, could slap the US, empire of the devil, across the face and how it could build such strong military power capable of countering the US invasion.

The shooting down of EC-121 was a demonstration of the might of the KPA by which the boastful US was taken down a peg once again and a Korean-style punishment.

Panmunjom incident

On August 18 1976 a gruesome mood pervaded the joint security area at Panmunjom, the truce village, through which the Military Demarcation Line passes.

American officers and men bustled about menacingly from the early morning and at around 10:40 they approached a poplar carrying deadly weapons.

They said they would cut down the tree inside the area without a prior notice to the relevant organization of the legitimate Military Armistice Commission.

It was a deliberate act of provocation.

The KPA guards made a phone call to the US forces' side to protest it through the joint security duty officer, warning them not to do any illegal acts that gained no mutual consent.

The American provokers did not withdraw meekly.

As was later revealed, the poplar-cutting operation was organized by US President Ford himself.

At the instance of the President, the commander of the 1st corps of the US 8th army involved well-trained officers and men in this operation, saying many a raccoon dog can never match a wolf.

In those days the Korean people's reunification movement was at a historic turning point.

The 30th UN General Assembly session held in 1975 adopted a resolution calling for an end to the US military occupation of south Korea and the dissolution of the UN Command and voices expressing support to and solidarity with the US troop pullout and reunification of Korea were getting louder with the 5th summit of the non-aligned countries held in August 1976 as a momentum.

Upset by the world public opinion, the US tried to find an excuse to justify its troop presence in south Korea while spreading the "southward threat" argument in the run-up to the 31st UNGA session. Hence the orchestration of the "poplar-cutting operation".

The KPA guards resolutely checked the illegal action of the American sentries. Without missing this opportunity the latter attacked the former with an axe they used for tree cutting and committed group violence against them.

The plucky Korean servicemen responded to their reckless provocation with merciless punishment.

Four barehanded Koreans confronted fourteen Americans armed with an axe and clubs.

They caught the thrown axe and threw it back, killing two US officers on the spot.

Horrified by the iron fists of the Korean servicemen, the Americans took flight.

The US distorted the fact, saying the KPA soldiers assaulted its security members, and drove the situation to extremes.

The world's leading newspapers continued to carry the photograph showing the KPA servicemen stepping on a sturdy American officer.

As soon as the incident occurred, President Ford dispatched a naval task force comprising the aircraft carrier USS Midway, cruiser and frigate and some 1 800 marines stationed in Okinawa to south Korea and flew F-4 and F-111 fighter bombers and B-52 strategic bomber.

At the same time the US sent a notice like an ultimatum to the DPRK while issuing an emergency alert order to its units in south Korea to place them in combat readiness and declaring emergency martial law.

It demanded an apology and compensation from the DPRK and even urged it to punish the servicemen involved in the incident.

To cope with the situation President Kim Il Sung ordered all the KPA units, the Worker-Peasant Red Guards and the Young Red Guards to get fully ready for combat.

Kim Jong Il called a KPA commanding officer to acquaint himself with the US buildup of troops in detail.

He foretold the moves to be made by the US forces and indicated ways and means to make up operations plans to provide for a war.

As instructed by him, the KPA kept fully ready for action, standing firm against the US.

The whole country turned out for the face-off with the US. University students, workers, farmers and other young people volunteered to join the army. All the Korean people rose up as one in the struggle to foil the US invasion, holding rifles in one hand and hammers and sickles in the other. The country's defence capability was built up and miraculous achievements were made in the socialist construction.

The US tried to overpower the DPRK on the strength of its military superiority, but gave in.

The head of the US military who orchestrated the clash admitted that it was a due punishment for the provocation that his soldiers were hit by axe, saying the attempt to axe the DPRK side boomeranged against the whole US military.

In late August 1976 the US accepted all the proactive proposals made by the DPRK for modifying the order in the Panmunjom joint security area including the matters of banning the bringing of any lethal weapons like axe in the joint security area and dealing with all problems arising in the area in line with mutual agreements.

The video recording the US broadcast to make the world public believe that the DPRK provoked the US only served to advertise the combat power of the KPA.

The incident showed the world that the KPA which grew to become invincible ranks was perfect in combat preparedness and it was in-

comparably superior to the US forces in physical fitness as well as in spiritual aspect.

SR-71 incident

Instead of learning lessons from the EC-121 incident by which it disgraced itself in front of the world community, this time the US flew SR-71 high-altitude reconnaissance plane, called the “god” in the air, into the DPRK.

Earning a nickname “black cobra” for its black and strange shape, the titanium alloy plane often cruised along the air above the MDL, conducting espionage of taking photographs of the DPRK’s military bases and important targets.

The officers in charge of operations of the KPA General Staff racked their brains to find a way to counter the frequent spying activities of this plane, but could not find any appropriate countermeasures.

It was reported to Kim Jong Il.

He advised them not to shoot it down, but fire a rocket very near to it to panic the pilot so that the spy plane would never appear again in the sky above the MDL.

However, the KPA had no plane or rocket which was faster than SR-71 at the time.

It was the successor to the Lockheed U-2 reconnaissance plane which had launched spying activities in 1956.

On May 1 1960 a Lockheed U-2 spy plane was brought down from the sky above the Soviet Union. So the US poured lots of money into making a more advanced spy plane.

In 1964 US President Johnson announced that the new plane was devel-

oped, claiming that neither rockets nor any other weapons would be able to shoot it down.

It could cruise at Mach 3 at the altitude of 24 000 metres, while taking precision pictures of an area of 155 000 square kilometres in an hour.

The long-range spy plane was furnished with latest equipment for navigation and installed in it were an automatic space navigation system whereby the pilot could judge his accurate location and aerial electronic computers with which to make a designated flight correctly.

It had also a system to automatically transmit electronic waves to disable the ground-based radars to monitor it.

SR-71 was the fastest and the most expensive super high-speed reconnaissance plane in the world at the time, so it was really impossible to gun it down.

The operations officers continued to discuss plans with the commanding officers of rocket units on the basis of its data, but failed to adopt a decisive plan.

Kim Jong Il checked their plans one after another and advised them to stage a combined operation.

He told them that the firing position was important and that if the four problems of high-performance weapon, coordinated operation, firing place and the timing of rocket launch were settled, they could easily scare the pilot, however modern the spy plane was and however unfavourable the condition for attacking it might be.

The operations officers mapped out a plan carefully on the basis of his novel ideas and the servicemen mobilized in this operation were put on standby.

The time came to show the KPA's tactical superiority to the US which boasted of being technologically superior.

One day in August 1981 the US sent the plane again in the air above the

MDL, fully obsessed with the myth of its military and technological superiority.

The KPA immediately fired a rocket at SR-71 which conducted espionage in the air above the MDL.

The rocket pursued the plane cruising along the exact trajectory. It was only 100 metres away when the plane found it and hurriedly escaped, transmitting jamming signals in consternation.

It was a battle of a moment, but it greatly shook the world political and military situation.

That the Korean rocket was allowed to approach that close to the spy plane, which the US asserted would not be brought down by any anti-aircraft means, was nothing short of shooting it down.

It was the victory of the KPA rocket force.

Kim Jong Il told the chief of the KPA General Staff that the Americans would do all kinds of provocation, arguing the plane did not fly over the MDL but the DPRK tried to bring it down and threatening to take retaliatory measures. But I'll remain unperturbed to their provocation and it is my position and decision to fight a war if they want it, he said.

And he stressed the need to get well prepared for war to provide against the possible acts of war provocation by the US.

The US did not know that the latest military hardware is inferior to outstanding strategy and tactics that are supported by the strong will of the KPA.

At that time the pilot of SR-71 was so frightened that he asked his superior to send him home, saying he would not fly any reconnaissance mission against the DPRK.

As regards the incident, the world media commented: The US conducts aerial espionage openly in almost all the countries in the world. They do know that it is committing illegal spying activities by sending its planes frequently

to their airspace, but dare not challenge it. Such brigandish acts do not work only on the DPRK. It protects global peace in the face of the US on the strength of its enormous military capability.

Declaration of semi-war state

From the beginning of 1983 the aggressive moves of the US and south Korea approached a real war inch by inch.

The US announced that it would wage Team Spirit 83 joint military drill with south Korea.

It loudly advertised that it would involve part of American forces in the continental US, the Pacific and south Korea and elsewhere, rapid reaction forces, the maritime combat unit of the US 7th Fleet, the strategic and tactical airborne operations unit of the US Pacific Air Forces, an aircraft carrier flotilla and some 190 000 American and south Korean troops in total.

As it was this much huge in scale, the content was also very dangerous. One of its dangers was that the joint military exercise had turned into offensive-oriented since then.

“It is particularly inspiring that once a passive defence-oriented drill, it has now become a positive and attack-oriented defence drill pepped up with counterattack operation,” said a south Korean brass hat.

The US defined it as an offensive-oriented drill and even regarded it as an imaginary nuclear war.

It was ready to mobilize in the war games all kinds of missiles that can carry nuclear warheads and the troops of special nuclear weapons unit under the US marine corps in Okinawa in addition to the nuclear weapons of the US forces in south Korea.

At this very moment, the US army chief of staff flew to south Korea and

told a news conference that if a war breaks out in Korea, the US would use tactical nuclear weapons.

The operations officers of the KPA General Staff worked out a variety of plans and held heated debates about them repeatedly for several days to counter the Team Spirit 83 joint military exercise.

One day in 1983 a meeting of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea took place with President Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il in attendance.

The chief of the KPA General Staff briefed on the background to the joint military drill staged by the US, the specific situation and operational plan of the General Staff anticipating a real war.

In the meeting the President pointed to the need to declare a state of semi-war to the whole country, specifying the tasks to be tackled in making the whole Party, the entire army and all the people fully ready for combat.

The KPA General Staff reported to Kim Jong Il a variety of plans related to the proclamation of a semi-war state to the country.

After examining them one by one, he asked the chief of the General Staff when he thought most opportune time would be to declare the Supreme Commander's semi-war state order.

As was suggested by military officials, he answered that mid-March was suitable to give the enemy an impression that the KPA paid little heed to the joint exercise in the early stage and stun them at the stage of full-scale drill.

Kim Jong Il said the idea was very reasonable in the light of military operation and it also fully reflected the military intention and purpose to hit the enemy hard in case the US provoked a war as an extension of the military rehearsal.

But it should not be considered in that aspect only, when taking into consideration the political and military purpose the US seeks through the military exercise once again, he said, and noted that the semi-war state should be declared not in mid-March, but on February 1 when it would begin.

He said that only when the military situation was approached not from a passive but active point of view, could they reach the most reasonable and correct conclusion and demonstrated the reason why the date of its proclamation should be set for February 1 on the basis of scientific data.

It was an operation plan aimed to deal a heavy blow to the enemy before they started the full-scale drill.

On February 1 the Korean Central News Agency broadcast to the world the press release of the KPA Supreme Headquarters, which said that Supreme Commander Kim Il Sung issued an order to all the KPA units, members of the People's Security Forces, the Worker-Peasant Red Guards and the Young Red Guards to enter the state of semi-war from February 1 to mid-April.

The US was taken aback by the press release that came like a bolt from the blue before starting the planned Team Spirit 83 war exercise.

A series of accidents happened among the US and south Korean troops from the early stage of the drill.

A warplane crashed into the deck, several tanks and armoured vehicles fell down from a bridge into a river while on the move and some of them slipped into the frozen swamp.

The fact that more than 50 per cent of all accidents during the war game occurred in a few days after the exercise began shows how greatly the declaration of the semi-war state affected the mentality of the American and south

Korean troops involved in the drill.

Commenting on it, a university professor in Seoul said:

“Even though the US tries in every way to strike the north by the lightning of war with huge armed forces, the north has a strong lightning conductor to prevent it.

“It is the unrivalled courage and adroit tactics of General Kim Jong Il. Without knowing it the US will have no future.”

Legend of the Taehung

Once, the evening edition of the Russian newspaper *Izvestia* carried an article under the title of “North Koreans beat US admiral”. It said:

“The captain of the north Korean cargo vessel Taehung fooled the US admiral of the 22 warship-fleet standing guard over the Persian Gulf.

“Nobody knows whether the Americans lost sight of the ship or whether it sailed along the waters off the Iranian coast. But fact remains a fact.

“On March 10 the Taehung dropped anchor in Bandar Abbas Port in Iran.”

The widely-known report mirrored the praise of the world public for the DPRK’s victory in the face-off with the US.

At the time the world described the tactics of KPA Supreme Commander Kim Jong Il as a “sky-flying magic”.

It happened in February 1992.

The DPRK trade ship Taehung set sail for several countries in Africa and the Middle East to ship in building materials.

Unexpectedly, however, the Israeli intelligence agency was on the alert for its voyage and began to track it down, claiming that as the Taehung was transporting Scud missiles to Syria, it should be stopped.

A week after the departure the ship arrived at the port of Singapore and the

sailors were informed of the chase by the hostile forces.

At that time Kim Jong Il was informed of the fact that the US was involved in the pursuit of the trade ship.

As Israel thought it could not achieve its end single-handedly it asked the US for a helping hand.

The Americans heartily welcomed the Israeli request.

Soon the CIA director and the director of the US Arms Control and Disarmament Agency assumed the command of the operation.

They raised a hue and cry that the north Korean ship was carrying latest missiles and their production facilities to proliferate missiles to the Middle East.

It was an infringement on the sovereignty of the DPRK and a sinister political plot to impair its international prestige.

Kim Jong Il instructed to set its route towards Pakistan in the east of the Persian Gulf as the US saw that it was sailing to Syria.

The Taehung soon departed from the port of Singapore and started voyaging along the fixed route.

The US was struck dumb as it thought the ship would return home, frightened by its threat.

Though first perplexed by the headlong rush of the Taehung, the Americans soon came to their senses and began to chase it openly.

When it passed through the Strait of Malacca, they tailed it for two days, waiting for a chance of provocation.

The Korean sailors were afraid of nothing as they had already received an order of the Supreme Commander.

They were trailed by the dogged pursuer, but shook it off artfully to continue sailing.

As it lost the track of the Korean ship, the US turned to earth satellites and flew reconnaissance planes to find it out.

It was not until the Taehung was on the southeastern tip of Sri Lanka that the US located it.

US warplanes flew low 150 metres above the ship and dropped black things, provoking the DPRK ship.

All these acts of provocation were committed on the instruction of President George Bush and other American rulers.

They ordered their servicemen to get aboard the Taehung and rummage and take action if the Koreans did not comply.

Bush said the Korean trade vessel should be stopped if it was carrying Scud missiles to Iran and so if it appeared in the Gulf, it should be brought under control and searched.

The CIA director asserted that the US government would have it stopped and rummaged in two days if possible. A senior official of the Department of Defense said that the US Navy was ready to go and meet to order the north Korean cargo vessel believed to sail to Iran or Syria with Scud-C missiles.

The Taehung became the focus of international attention.

Kim Jong Il called related officials to him and said that the Taehung should neither be searched by the US forces, nor return home, nor change the destination port. He noted it should avoid the enemy track and search with flexible and elusive tactics and enter the destination port to defend national dignity and sovereignty.

The maritime showdown between the DPRK and the US got fiercer.

The US deployed four warships on the sea lane of the Indian Ocean leading to the port of Bandar Abbas of Iran and the 22-warship fleet in the Strait of Hormuz at the entrance to the Persian Gulf and got them fully ready for search.

The Korean sailors kept on sailing by employing flexible tactics with the determination to defend national dignity and sovereignty at any cost, broke through the siege laid by the US fleet and finally entered the port of Bandar Abbas of Iran.

The Korean cargo vessel won a miraculous victory in the showdown with the 22 American naval vessels.

At the port of Bandar Abbas it had to unload the cargo in a few days and decide on the course for the next voyage.

Kim Jong Il was briefed on the situation and set its course for Karachi, Pakistan.

He ordered the cargo vessel to be on standby in daytime, bravely pass through the Gulf of Oman at night and sail for Karachi.

Accordingly, the Taehung dropped anchor to give an impression that it would stay there for days, sneaked out of the tight cordon of US warships at the mouth of the Gulf of Oman under cover of darkness and headed for Karachi.

The next day dawned and the Americans realized that their target was nowhere to be found and raised a hubbub.

Grilled by journalists, the US Department of Defense spokesman said he was not sure why the ship could not be noticed, and the US Secretary of State surprisingly told a press conference in Brussels that he had no comments to make on the Taehung.

The US Middle East commander said at a House Armed Services Committee session that they had mobilized vessels, aircraft and satellites in a vain attempt to search out the ship for about 10 days.

With the US in disarray, the Taehung set sail again in the Indian Ocean.

The focus of the US military equipment was again directed to her.

Despite US aircraft's threatening moves in the open sea, the Taehung continued to cruise and pulled into Syria's Port Ladhqiyyah safely through the Suez Canal.

Wherever the ship arrived, people said in wonder: "Is it (the ship's arrival) true? Unbelievable. It's a heroic event. You are right to say that the Korean people led by General Kim Jong Il do what they are deter-

mined to do. It is proved by the fact the ship has braved all those challenges.” A senior foreign official said that the US controls the world but the DPRK controls the US.

Leader Kim Jong Il was so pleased to hear that the ship anchored at the Syrian port, and set Port Bata in Equatorial Guinea as its next destination so that it could continue its mystical voyage.

The Taehung left Ladhqiyah for Bata and then moved for Singapore before coming back to the home port of Nampho with building materials loaded.

For about six months the ship travelled 1.6 times as far as the distance around the earth.

An international event in the late 20th century, the story about the Taehung’s journey was a mystery that startled the world and a legend about the DPRK’s strategy and strength.

2. Tough stance for hard line

Declaration of withdrawal from NPT

In January 1991 US President George Bush said in his State of the Union Address that a golden chance came to establish a new world order, adding that the new world order was an order in which there is no scourge of Cold War and market and democracy thrive – a world where socialism is rooted out to make way for capitalism.

The upper echelons of American politics found a pathway to the US-led world order in reining in socialist Korea as they saw it as the stronghold of socialism, standard-bearer of the anti-imperialist and independent force for developing countries, and a strong force which can defy the US’ doctrine head-on.

A senior fellow of Georgetown University international relations school in the US observed that “north Korea is a military entity which can challenge the US most vehemently in today’s world” and “its socialist entity is the most dangerous one that might make a breakthrough straight in the US-led international order of the new age”.

The DPRK, a bulwark of anti-Americanism, independence and socialism, must be a thorn in the flesh of the US, which was bent on the unipolar order of domination as the “superpower” in the world.

So the US chose to stifle the DPRK and set it as the first step towards the implementation of its strategy for global domination, making the DPRK become centre stage in post-Cold War politico-military confrontation worldwide.

Washington increased threat and pressure on the DPRK, taking issue with its peaceful nuclear programme.

By 1993 the US nuclear blackmail was at its heights.

The DPRK signed a safeguards agreement with the IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) on January 30 1992 as the US assured that it would not threaten the DPRK with nuclear weapons. Afterwards, it went through five rounds of ad hoc inspection in a bid to show transparency of its peaceful nuclear programme to the world.

Nevertheless, the US egged the impure elements of the IAEA on to demand a special inspection of the DPRK’s two military sites, which had nothing to do with the nuclear programme, in late 1992 in the run-up to the sixth round of ad hoc inspection. UN inspectors raised “incoherence” during the ad hoc inspection which started on January 26 1993 in a move to seek a rationale behind the special inspection. The Board of Governors of the IAEA even adopted an unfair resolution in a session on February 25 on an intrusive inspection of the DPRK’s military installations.

This was an intolerable infringement upon the DPRK's sovereignty, outrageous interference in its internal affairs and overt act of hostility. If the special inspection was accepted, it would have legitimized espionage of the US, a belligerent against the DPRK, and made way to opening all the other military installations in the DPRK.

The outrageous demand for special inspection faced a strong rejection of the DPRK.

The US threatened the DPRK, claiming that if it did not approve the special inspection, it would follow in the steps of Grenada, Panama and Iraq and be confronted by sanctions.

On January 26 1993 the US and south Korea announced the restart of the already stopped Team Spirit joint military exercise before launching massive manoeuvres of US troops and military equipment. Tomahawk cruise missiles, F-117 stealth fighter-bombers, B-1B strategic bombers, warships and all sorts of nuclear strike means began to be massively deployed on and around the Korean peninsula and 200 000-strong troops, including the rapid reaction force, were mobilized from the military bases in the continental US, Guam, Hawaii, Japan and other parts of the Asia-Pacific region. During the drill US forces at home and abroad had been put on stand-by in case of an emergency on the Korean peninsula, with the system of command communications geared to the use of nuclear weapons set in motion.

The resumption of the Team Spirit joint military exercise carried the nuclear crisis on the Korean peninsula to extremes.

With concerns and fears increasing, the world focused its attention on the DPRK, a small country compared to the sole superpower US.

It was the matchless grit and spirit of Kim Jong Il to be undaunted in any circumstances, take up the gauntlet and turn adversity into victory.

Determined to face the US hard-line policy with tougher stance, he called on the entire population and the whole army to fight a do-or-die battle to protect national sovereignty.

On March 8 1993 when the perilous Team Spirit 93 joint military exercise began in earnest and the Korean peninsula situation reached boiling point, Kim Jong Il issued KPA Supreme Commander's Order No. 0034 **On declaring a state of war readiness for the whole country, all the people and the entire army.**

Vehemently denouncing the joint military exercise by the US and south Korea, he said: **“Our people are not frightened by the Team Spirit joint military exercise, even though it involves hundreds of thousands of men and weapons of mass destruction, and our army will not shrink back for fear of war.**

“If the US imperialists and the south Korean puppets unleash another war, our people and the People's Army will fight to the death for the sake of the Party, the leader and our style of socialism that is centred on the masses of the people and has been achieved at the cost of their blood, and will thus deal a crushing blow to the aggressors and raise the dignity and honour of heroic Korea even further.

“The enemy must clearly understand that he shall not trample with impunity on even an inch of land or a blade of grass in our Republic.

“In view of the grave situation prevailing in our country owing to the schemes of the US imperialists and the south Korean puppets to unleash another war, and as self-defensive measures to safeguard the security of our Republic and people, I order the following:

1. The whole country, all the people and the entire army shall, on March 9, 1993, switch to a state of war readiness.

2. All the soldiers of the three services of the Korean People's

Army – the land, naval and air forces – and of the Korean People’s Security Forces, and all the members of the Worker-Peasant Red Guards and the Young Red Guards, shall display high revolutionary vigilance and closely observe every move by the enemy, and shall be fully ready for action to crush the enemy at a stroke should they attack.

3. All the people shall equip themselves fully with our Party’s Juche-oriented view on war and, with a hammer or a sickle in one hand and a rifle in the other, produce a great upswing in socialist economic construction.”

Upon the order of the Supreme Commander, all were out at once for a death-defying fight against the enemy.

On March 9 the service personnel of the KPA’s three services and the Korean People’s Security Forces, as well as the members of the Worker-Peasant Red Guards and the Young Red Guards, took up combat positions all at once.

On the same day a 100 000-strong mass rally and demonstration took place at Pyongyang’s Kim Il Sung Square, followed by similar events in provinces, industrial establishments, farms and universities.

All the workers, farmers and intellectuals strove to strengthen the all-people defence system while maintaining a high level of combat posture.

The US was upset by the DPRK’s reaction that all the service personnel and people turned out single-mindedly to follow the order of their Supreme Commander.

On March 12 1993 the DPRK government released a statement on the withdrawal from the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty, another blow to the beleaguered US.

Declaring the DPRK would pull out of the treaty to protect the country’s top

interests, the statement made it clear that it was a natural self-defensive measure against the US nuclear war moves and the unfair behaviour of some elements in the Secretariat of the IAEA and the DPRK would remain unchanged in its principled stand unless the US stopped nuclear threat to the DPRK and the IAEA Secretariat returned to the principle of autonomy and impartiality.

The declaration of the withdrawal from the NPT was a crushing blow General Kim Jong Il had dealt to those who recklessly committed acts of provocation and a roll of thunder that shook the foundations of the US' aggressive global strategy. It sent shockwaves throughout the world.

At 10:30 a.m. on March 12 the Korean central broadcasting station aired the government statement and twenty minutes later foreign media began to report on the news.

The statement made front-page news in the US, Japan, France, the UK, China, Russia and other countries of the world.

Politicians, personages and the media across the world commented that north Korea's strength was demonstrated in light of politics, ideology and military and the DPRK's decision caught the US administration in a dilemma. Lavishing praise on Kim Jong Il's extraordinary wisdom and matchless courage, they said that Supreme Commander Kim Jong Il's courage is greater than that of renowned generals in the world put together and even the nukes cut no ice with it. ABC of Australia reported that the current (DPRK-US) showdown shows the zenith of the north Korean leader's art of leadership.

The US, which was trying to bring the DPRK to its knees by militarily threatening and pressurizing it over the nuclear issue, announced it would stop the joint military exercise ahead of schedule, and the IAEA could not but give up its special inspection.

On March 24, Kim Jong Il ordered the lift of the state of war readiness in the country, a declaration of triumph in the politico-military showdown with the US.

DPRK-US Joint Statement

As its scheme to make the DPRK buckle under unprecedented nuclear blackmail and war threats turned out to be futile, the US realized that it could not achieve its goal by relying on pressure and sanctions and agreed on government-level talks with the DPRK.

Though the US came to the negotiating table, it hardly abandoned its attempts to stifle the DPRK and worked to carry them out by diplomatic carrots.

So the DPRK-US war without gunshots continued on the diplomatic front following a politico-military face-off.

Kim Jong Il commanded the diplomatic foray during DPRK-US talks which were held in three rounds.

The first round of talks ran between June 2 and 11 1993 in New York, with the DPRK side consisting of eight officials led by the first vice-minister of Foreign Affairs and the US side comprising 12 officials including the assistant secretary of State.

The US delegation, a group of representatives, experts and insiders from the White House, Departments of State and Defense, CIA and other government agencies, applied tactics of blackmail and appeasement to get the better of the DPRK.

Kim Jong Il ensured that the DPRK side led the talks proactively from the beginning, encouraging it to respond to the US' blackmail diplomacy with the courage of "human bombs" and to its bargaining approach with the staunch revolutionary principle.

On the first day of talks the US side set unfair terms in a bid to make the

DPRK return to the NPT. They said threateningly that the DPRK was “at a crossroads of fate” and if it did not agree to the return to the NPT it would face a “tragic situation” and confront a “misfortune”.

The DPRK side immediately retorted that “we even braced ourselves for a missile attack from the US when we withdrew from the NPT.”

Such a DPRK’s resolute and principled response to the US high-handedness was fully backed by the strong military capabilities of the Korean People’s Army led by Kim Jong Il.

On May 29, a few days before talks in New York, missiles blasted off in the DPRK towards the waters around Guam and Hawaii in the Pacific Ocean.

Through spy satellites, the US noticed that those missiles were several times faster and higher in the rate of hits than Tomahawk cruise missiles and Patriot interceptors, emblematic of its power diplomacy. The US could not but reflect on reactions.

Missiles were not the monopoly of the US any more. Gone were the days when it had dealt missile attacks on other countries as it liked and without any fears that it would be hit back. The DPRK was not that of the 1950s. It developed into a military power that was determined and able to destroy the enemies that violate its sovereignty and territory, no matter who they are and where they are on the earth.

As their menace did not work, the American negotiators tried to conciliate the Korean counterparts in a way of bargaining. In order to gain concessions from the DPRK side the Americans offered to cancel the DPRK’s withdrawal from the NPT and accept the full-scale inspection of the IAEA in return for the discussions of pending issues, economic cooperation and establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. This was a bargain-style offer of the US.

Talks were not a bargain. The DPRK side did not fall into a trap of bargain as the US wanted.

The head of the DPRK side explicitly explained that the root cause of the nuclear issue was the US' anti-DPRK approach and nuclear blackmail geared to stifling Korean socialism, emphasizing that as long as there was no shift in such a US policy of hostility to the DPRK there would be no progress in the discussions about the nuclear issue and the precedence of coordination and agreement on the political issue should be the starting point of the discussions.

Due to the divergence of opinion the first round of talks lasted for almost 50 hours and eventually drew to a close with the publication of the DPRK-US joint statement on June 11, a day before the DPRK's withdrawal from the NPT took effect automatically.

In the joint statement both sides agreed to the principles of: assurances against the threat and the use of force, including nuclear weapons; peace and security in a nuclear-free Korean peninsula, including impartial application of full-scope safeguards, mutual respect for each other's sovereignty, and non-interference in each other's internal affairs; and support for the peaceful reunification of Korea. And it noted that the DPRK unilaterally decided to suspend as long as it considered necessary the effectuation of its withdrawal from the NPT.

The adoption of the DPRK-US joint statement meant a victory for the DPRK as it made the achievement which is hard to attain even by fighting a war against the only superpower with the world's number one military and economy. It was also a historic event that built the groundwork for frustrating the US policy of hostility to the DPRK and its attempts to stifle the country with nuclear threat and fundamentally resolving the nuclear issue.

Background to Carter's Pyongyang visit

Kim Jong Il instructed the Korean diplomats to put forward the proposal for replacing graphite-moderated reactor (GMR) with light water reactor

(LWR), a landmark initiative for the settlement of the nuclear issue, at the second round of the DPRK-US talks.

The second-round talks took place in Geneva between July 14 and 19 1993.

At the talks the DPRK delegation rebuked the US side for the provocative and reckless remarks made by the high-ranking US officials against the DPRK, describing them as a grave political issue, before entering into the discussion of the main agenda items. The unexpected punch put the Americans on the defensive. They were at a loss what to say and could not but make an official apology.

Turning the dialogue atmosphere to its advantage, the DPRK delegation tabled the LWR proposal and dealt a barrage of blows.

The proposal for replacing the DPRK's GMR and its related facilities with LWR was innovative as it would help resolve the Korean peninsula nuclear issue fundamentally and completely. The GMR fuelled by natural uranium produces much more plutonium in the reprocessing than the LWR fed by enriched uranium.

Plutonium can be used for such military purposes as the making of nukes as well as for such peaceful purposes as the generation of electricity. As the US circulated rumours about "nuclear suspicion" of the DPRK, arguing it would use plutonium for the manufacture of nuclear weapons in the future, the LWR proposal was the best way to show its denuclearization will and transparency of its nuclear activities.

It was not simply a technical issue related to nuclear activities, but a bright idea that brings benefits in politics, the economy, the military, diplomacy and all other fields.

As the DPRK advanced the proposal, the IAEA withdrew its own for inspection immediately and the US side could not but support and welcome it, describing it as "wise, creative and bold".

At the talks the DPRK earned US support for the proposal and exacted its commitment to the provision of LWR.

But the US began to use delaying tactics, maintaining that it would attend the third round of the DPRK-US talks on condition that the DPRK would accept the IAEA inspection and resume inter-Korean dialogue.

The DPRK responded to it with tough stance.

On November 3 1993 the Vice-Minister of the People's Armed Forces released a statement declaring that the country would "answer dialogue with dialogue, and war with war". It was followed by the statement of the head of the DPRK delegation to the talks calling for resolving bilateral issues on the formula of a package solution on November 11.

The US positively appreciated and responded to the Korean package solution formula. It accepted the DPRK's formula at the working contact held in New York on December 29. At the contact the US side officially expressed its willingness to suspend the Team Spirit 94 joint military exercise as part of its measures to remove nuclear threat to the DPRK, while the latter agreed to allow not the routine and ad hoc inspections, but inspections necessary only for guaranteeing the continuity of the safeguards in keeping with the special position of it which temporarily suspended the effectuation of its withdrawal from the NPT, and, if the south Korean side suggested a working contact for the exchange of special envoys, positively examine the proposal. And both sides agreed to hold the third-round talks to solve as a package deal the issues related to the fundamental settlement of the nuclear issue.

The US, however, completely broke the promise it made to the DPRK after the working contact in New York, instigated the IAEA to demand overall inspection and came out again with the special inspection of the two military sites that had nothing to do with nuclear activities.

In response to this, the spokesman for the DPRK Foreign Ministry published a statement on January 31 1994 to declare its tough stance that the country would no longer be bound by any commitments it made to the US and hold talks with it if the latter went back on the promise it made with the DPRK, but it would adopt appropriate countermeasures if the US decided to take other options.

And in May it replaced fuel rods at the 5 megawatt experimental nuclear power station as scheduled in spite of the unreasonable US interference.

As the IAEA took a step to “suspend technological assistance”, demanding the opening of the country’s military sites on the pretext of the nuclear issue, the DPRK declared on June 13 that it would immediately withdraw from the organization, expressing its resolute stand that sanctions directly mean war and war knows no mercy as the US was trying to adopt a resolution on sanctions against it at the UN by mobilizing its allies.

As the DPRK took a tougher stance to fight even a war, the theory of prudence came to the fore in the US.

As it examined a new Korean war scenario, the US Defense Department conducted a computer simulation of nuclear war. It predicted that the US would lose the war after suffering a terrible loss of human life and materials, immensely disheartening the US military.

The US could not but acknowledge the might of the KPA headed by the great Songun commander.

On June 13 VOA broadcast to the following effect:

By stating already that sanctions would lead to war Pyongyang made clear that once sanctions are imposed it would respond to them with a war against the US, south Korea and their allies. We must not forget that the Korean peninsula is not the Balkans, unlike Iraq in the vast desert over 80 per cent of it

is mountainous and the north Korean army the US should face is a special army distinct from the former rivals. In particular, we must always remember that the north Korean armed forces and people are under the command of President Kim Il Sung, a veteran rival of the US and Japan, and Supreme Commander Kim Jong Il.

Even the close allies of the US objected to the UN sanctions against the DPRK as well as the UNSC permanent members and the developing countries.

Driven into a corner, the US sent former president Carter to the DPRK on June 15 to seek a compromise.

President Kim Il Sung met him to provide a decisive occasion for reopening the deadlocked DPRK-US talks.

As a result, the third round of DPRK-US talks took place on two occasions in Geneva between August and October 1994.

Assurance from US president

The third round of DPRK-US talks was very fierce from the beginning.

At the talks the US side brought up unilateral demands that the other side could not accept. It pressurized the DPRK to return to the NPT, accept the IAEA's special inspection and implement the inter-Korean joint declaration on denuclearization. In particular, it urged the latter to freeze its nuclear activities forever as an immediate demand.

It said only then would it provide LWR, take gradual measures to supply interim energy alternatives to replace the graphite-moderated reactor and push ahead with the matter of forging diplomatic ties in stages.

It was a crafty US trick to disarm the DPRK by employing a carrot and stick approach and see the day of its "collapse" by applying delaying tactics.

Before the departure of the delegation to the talks Kim Jong Il instructed that it should be on high alert not to be trapped by the US, foreseeing that the Americans would make a desperate bid for a successful international NPT renewal conference . He also specified the ways to counter the Americans at the talks.

The DPRK delegation brushed aside the unreasonable demand of the US side and put the American negotiators in the passive with reasonable arguments while maintaining the firm stand that the country would move simultaneously as much as the US does first.

After heated debate, the DPRK-US agreed statement was published on August 12 1994. It said:

“The USA is prepared to make arrangements for the provision of LWRs of approximately 2 000MW(e) to the DPRK as early as possible and to make arrangements for interim energy alternatives to the DPRK’s graphite-moderated reactors. ... The DPRK will freeze construction of the 50 MW(e) and 200 MW(e) reactors, forego reprocessing, and seal the Radiochemical Laboratory, to be monitored by the IAEA.

“The DPRK and the USA are prepared to establish diplomatic representation in each other’s capital and to reduce barriers to trade and investment, as a move toward full normalization of political and economic relations.

“The USA is prepared to provide the DPRK with assurances against the threat or use of nuclear weapons by the USA, and the DPRK remains prepared to implement the North-South Joint Declaration on the Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.

“The DPRK is prepared to remain a party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and to allow implementation of its safeguards agreement under the treaty.”

The publication of the agreed statement was a great victory of the DPRK at

the talks. The DPRK fixed the provision of LWRs as a key factor in the settlement of the nuclear issue and bound the US to move in this direction in the future.

The world praised the country for the agreed statement, saying the point north Korea scored in diplomacy with the US was a great victory of Kim Jong Il's diplomacy and it was the first success of the new leadership in the diplomacy with the US.

The New York Times reported that the Geneva agreement frustrated the attempt of the hawks in Washington and Seoul to tarnish the repute of the new leadership in Pyongyang and the Japanese *Sankei Shimbun* newspaper noted that the "US conceded too fast and too much in Geneva".

The second session of the third round of DPRK-US talks lasted for nearly a month from September 23 to October 21.

Kim Jong Il instructed that the second session should be focused on making the US side legally assure that it would fulfil the commitments agreed between both sides.

At the beginning of the talks the US overturned the agreement on concluding a contract on the provision of LWRs it had made at the first session and forced the DPRK to immediately return to the NPT and accept the IAEA's "special inspection" related to the alleged "nuclear suspicion". It even threatened the dialogue partner, arguing it had no intention to continue the talks any longer unless the latter acceded to its demands within four days.

The DPRK delegation turned over to a counteroffensive immediately.

It argued that the country was willing to trace back its past nuclear activities if the US wanted, but no one could predict how long it would take and under such a situation the DPRK would never be able to spend time idling around, but compelled to continue to conduct nuclear activities for peaceful purposes

including the recharging and reprocessing in the graphite-moderated reactor in the period.

The argument turned the tables on the US. It realized that it could never make the DPRK return to the NPT if it insisted on the inspection of the Korean nuclear activities it did not know actually how long it would take. It withdrew the proposal for “special inspection” by itself.

Though in the passive, the US this time demanded the suspension of recharging in the graphite-moderated reactor and the dismantlement of it before the provision of core facilities of the first LWR unit.

The Korean delegation refuted this, stating that the country was compelled to continue reprocessing as well as recharging in the GMR, as the US failed to give it an assurance that it would provide LWRs and interim energy alternatives.

The US could no longer insist on its unreasonable demand.

On October 4 Kim Jong Il said the freeze of the country’s GMR should be timed to coincide with the clear agreement on the schedule for the delivery of interim energy alternatives after receiving written guarantee from the US president.

The Korean delegation demanded a written assurance from the US administration for the provision of LWRs and the delivery of interim energy alternatives, declaring resolutely that if it was unwilling to make a decision on it, both sides would have no other option but to go their own ways.

The US that had tried to blackmail the DPRK, only to face a tougher challenge, gave in again for fear that the bilateral talks might lead to a complete rupture.

Finally the Korean delegation succeeded in meeting its demands in the nearly one-month-long marathon talks.

At the talks both sides reached an agreement on the replacement of the DPRK’s GMR system with an LWR system, the normalization of political

and economic relations, the denuclearization of and ensuring of peace and security in the Korean peninsula, the strengthening of the nuclear non-proliferation system and others for the overall settlement of the nuclear issue, and made a commitment to adopt a DPRK-US agreed framework.

Authorized by Kim Jong Il, the head of the DPRK delegation signed the AF.

US President Clinton also instructed the head of its delegation to sign the AF and sent a letter to Kim Jong Il as regards assurances for the provision of light water reactors and for arrangement for interim energy alternatives, which said:

Pyongyang

His Excellency Kim Jong Il,
Supreme Leader of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Excellency,

I wish to confirm to you that I will use the full powers of my office to facilitate arrangements for the financing and construction of a light water nuclear power reactor project within the DPRK, and the funding and implementation of interim energy alternatives for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea pending completion of the first reactor unit of the light-water reactor project. In addition, in the event that this reactor project is not completed for reasons beyond the control of the DPRK, I will use the full powers of my office to provide, to the extent necessary, such a project from the United States, subject to approval of the US Congress. Similarly, in the event that the interim energy alternatives are not provided for reasons beyond the control of the DPRK, I will use the full powers of my office to provide, to the extent necessary, such interim energy alternatives from the United States, subject to

the approval of the US Congress.

I will follow this course of action so long as the DPRK continues to implement the policies described in the Agreed Framework between the United States of America and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

President of USA

October 20 1994

The White House, Washington DC

The event caused quite a stir throughout the world. The world media ran special features on the DPRK-US talks, saying "His Excellency Kim Jong Il is an outstanding military strategist and the master of adroit diplomacy" and "the world's destiny is now decided by the plan of Comrade Kim Jong Il and the US has been hooked in the nose and dragged along by him who is possessed of matchless courage".

The US inaugurated the KEDO (Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization), an international consortium, in March 1995.

It got the organization to sign the agreement on the provision of LWRs on December 15 1995 and hold a groundbreaking ceremony for the LWR project in the Kumho area in the DPRK in August 1997.

It also delivered a total of some 2.6 million tons of heavy oil to the country till late January 2001 pursuant to the commitment to the provision of interim energy alternatives.

The US announced that it would lift some sanctions against the DPRK on September 17 1998 and took steps to this end on June 19 2000.

After imposing economic sanctions against it over the past 50 years by branding it as an enemy state, the US allowed trade on ordinary goods, in-

vestment in agriculture, mining and other economic fields, the use of commercial vessels and planes and some financial transactions.

This showed that the US attempts to bring down Korean socialism through economic sanctions failed and its policy of hostility to the DPRK was collapsing.

Statement of KPA General Staff spokesman

Exhilarated by the successful military interventions in the Gulf and some countries of the world, the Americans increased war moves against the DPRK again in 1998.

US President Clinton flew to south Korea and made a belligerent remark on the pretext of the DPRK's nuclear issue that his "country was ready and able to do anything in defence of its public and the allied nation" while making a final inspection of the combat readiness of the US forces and preparedness for flight mission of its flying corps, an unprecedented act.

At the same time the American hard-line conservatives vehemently said one after another that if the DPRK's underground facilities were not inspected, the US would abrogate the AF and take "resolute counteraction".

Worse still, the US got the military to openly make public in the publications of the third countries the contents of Operation Plan 5027, a plan for the second Korean war allegedly to take revenge for the defeat it sustained in the past Korean war, together with the report that "it was completing a new war plan envisaging an invasion of north Korea".

The aggressive OPLAN 5027 (50 meaning the US Pacific Command, 2 standing for the Korean peninsula and 7 the number of the war scenario) the Americans completed by revising and supplementing the previous war plan

was divided into five stages.

The US planned to mobilize some 545 000 American troops, over 630 000-strong south Korean forces, 5 to 7 aircraft carrier flotillas, stealth fighter bombers F-117 and F-111, strategic bombers loaded with nuclear weapons B-1, B-2 and B-52 and other latest military hardware and large strike means to carry out the plan.

It put the plan into operation and mounted a blockade of the DPRK as the prelude to the implementation of the plan. The DPRK-US belligerency reached the critical point, driving peace and security in the Korean peninsula to the edge of cliffs and the outbreak of a war was on the horizon with actual danger looming larger.

The world focused its attention on Korea on the brink of war.

On November 22 1998 when the whole world was breathlessly watching the development of situation on the peninsula Kim Jong Il saw a performance given by an art squad of an army unit together with KPA commanding officers.

He was always calm and composed and very optimistic, however tense the situation was.

As he talked with the officials before the performance began, he asked a senior official of the KPA General Staff what the US really meant by making public OPLAN 5027.

He answered him what he had thought of.

After hearing him he fell in deep thought for a while and told him he thought that the US imperialists were making the war plan widely known in an attempt to dishearten the Koreans.

It is a pipe dream if the enemy tries to stifle our country, he said, and noted the KPA should publish a statement to disclose the aggressive nature of their war plan, specifying the ways to hit hard in the statement the US imperialists

obsessed with aggressive war.

A few days later he saw the draft statement and told the officials to release it in the name of the spokesman for the KPA General Staff that directly organizes and commands KPA operations.

As a result, the spokesman for the KPA General Staff on December 2 published a statement entitled “Our revolutionary armed forces will respond to the challenge of the US aggressor forces with merciless annihilating strike”.

Pointing out the detailed contents and aggressive nature of OPLAN 5027 that entered the stage of full-scale enforcement, it declared solemnly:

“To answer fire with fire is the character of our revolutionary army and its unique mode of counteraction.

“Although the US imperialists intend to discourage us by setting afloat their reckless operation plan, it is a foolish dream.

“We have our own operation plan. ‘Surgical operation’-style attack and ‘preemptive strike’ are by no means an exclusive option of the United States. The mode of strike is not the monopoly of the US, either.

“It must be aware that there is no limit to the strike of our People’s Army and that on this planet there is no room for escaping the strike.

“It must also bear in mind that the target of our strike in the war where fire is exchanged is not only the US imperialist aggressor forces who chiefly execute OPLAN 5027 but also the south Korean puppets who are willing to serve as their bullet-shield and Japan and all other riff-raff that offer bases or act as servants for them behind the scenes.

“We neither want nor avoid war. If a war is forced, we will never miss the opportunity.

“To cope with the present grave circumstances in which the US imperialists, having thrown off the mask of dialogue and negotiation partner, are driving the situation to the brink of war, we solemnly declare on behalf of Juche Korea that

our revolutionary armed forces will never pardon the challenge of the US imperialist aggressor forces but answer it with an annihilating blow.

“The aggressors will never escape the fate of forlorn wandering spirits.”

The statement was broadcast across the world, dealing a terrible blow to the US. After spreading the aggressive war plan in a bid to discourage the DPRK, the US was now busy with saving the situation while telling the Japanese and south Koreans to keep their mouth shut.

The world admired the DPRK.

The media in China, Russia, the US, Japan, Cuba, Indonesia, Syria, Ethiopia, Guinea and many other countries gave a wide coverage of the statement of the spokesman for the KPA General Staff under such headlines as “KPA fully ready to cope with the US invasion”, “Japan is also target of strike, north Korean People’s Army warns” and “North Korean military warns it would deal an annihilating strike to the US”.

The joint statement published by several political parties in Peru noted that they fully supported the mode of counteraction of the ever-victorious and iron-willed brilliant commander General Kim Jong Il and the militant character of the KPA to counter fire with fire.

Overwhelmed by the toughest statement of the KPA General Staff spokesman, the Americans gave vent to their indignation by attacking Iraq in coalition with the UK in mid-December.

Resolute punishment

Kim Jong Il led the KPA to inflict merciless punishment on the enemy if they invaded even an inch of land, waters and airspace of the country.

At around 10:45 on December 17 1994 a reconnaissance helicopter of the US forces arrogantly intruded deep into the air above Ipho-ri, Kumgang

County at an altitude of 150 metres along the ravine in the upper reaches of the Nam River in the area of Kosong County in the DPRK territory. On board the helicopter were two American pilots and it was their second reconnaissance mission in the airspace of the DPRK. Whereas they flew cautiously along the southern part of the Central Military Demarcation Line during the first mission, this time they went deep into the airspace of the DPRK under cover of the cold and cloudy weather.

The KPA servicemen were in full combat-readiness, guarding their posts bearing in mind the instructions of the Supreme Commander to mercilessly punish the invaders of the territory, airspace and waters of the country.

The enemy helicopter was 700 to 800 metres away now. It was urgent. A moment later it would turn its nose southward, cross the MDL and run away.

At that juncture, a squad leader of a subunit defending a frontline army post there lost no time to fire a shot at it. It hit the target right at the motor and the helicopter made a crash landing, puffing a jet of black smoke.

A US pilot on board was killed immediately and another one narrowly survived and was captured alive.

Kim Jong Il met the KPA commanding officers and highly praised the squad leader who had gunned down the American helicopter, saying “Well done”. It shows the KPA is capable of repulsing enemy attack at any time and demonstrated its resolute stance to punish any enemy at a stroke if they dare infringe on the sovereignty of the country, he noted.

He continued to say: The Americans are making foolish attempts to settle the incident in a roundabout way by instigating other countries, unable to directly contact our country. This is the matter that should be settled between our country and the US, but as it cannot approach us, it has cajoled the other country into asking us to release the captured pilot before Christmas. We do not celebrate Christmas, so it means nothing to the Ko-

rean people and therefore we plan to release him on the eve of New Year's Day, a holiday common to the world, though the Americans plead for mercy. Our intention is to emerge victorious in this incident and the issue of the US captured pilot while demonstrating the might of the KPA, the army of our Party.

He always instilled in the KPA service personnel enemy-annihilating spirit and valour to mercilessly punish the invaders of the sacred homeland at a stroke.

Greatly encouraged, the officers and men of the KPA always dealt a crushing blow to the aggressors who were bent on reckless acts of armed provocation.

In June 1999 the south Korean troops committed acts of military provocation in the West Sea of Korea, aggravating the situation again.

At the US' instigation the south Korean military argued for the "northern limit line" and illegally sent dozens of various warships into the territorial waters of the north from June 4, posing a menace to personal safety of the northern fishermen at work and disturbing their fishing.

What they call NLL is a brigandish line the US drew unilaterally in wanton violation of the article of the Korean Armistice Agreement, which stipulates that "all the islands lying to the north and west of the provincial boundary line between Hwanghae-Do and Kyonggi-Do shall be under the military control of the supreme commander of the KPA,... except the island groups of Paengyong-Do, Taechong-Do, Sochong-Do, which shall remain under the military control of the commander-in-chief, United Nations Command," and claiming ownership of not only the controversial five islands but also the waters under the control of the north.

Under the patronage of the belligerent forces of the US military, the south Korean military elaborately prearranged an operation plan to fabricate an incident in the West Sea while insisting on the illegitimate NLL.

The operation plan was worked out by the defence minister, the chairman

of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and other south Korean brass hats in an emergency meeting held in early June.

According to the plan, the operation was divided into the four stages of induction, collision with the DPRK warships, preemptive strike and expansion of armed attack, June 4 was set as D-day, all material aimed to shift the blame for the clash to the north would be prepared beforehand, operations personnel were to be prohibited from going or sleeping outside the barracks to keep secret and the operation was codenamed YS-99.

As was planned, the enemy provoked the north nearly every day from June 4 and went so far as to fire guns at the KPA naval vessels which were on routine patrol duty to protect civilian fishing boats on June 15, a grave act of provocation.

The KPA sailors immediately began to return a heavy fire to the reckless south Korean forces. But the balance of power was heavily in the latter's favour as they involved in the clash over 40 heavily-armed warships including two 2 000-ton destroyers, 20 speed boats, a 4 000-ton tank-landing vessel, 1 000-ton patrol ship, supply ship, rescue ship, plus two marine battalions. The KPA side had only a dozen patrol boats on their regular patrol missions in the West Sea.

The south Korean navy gained the upper hand in the beginning with a surprise attack, but the KPA sailors overpowered the enemy soon, turned over to a counterattack and dealt a crushing blow to them. Those of the tank-gun boat made a hole in the central part of a south Korean warship with the first shell. The second shot also pierced through the hole and hit the engine, splitting it into two in an instant. The enemies were horrified and in a great hurry to leave the ship, precipitating a chaos on board.

A machine-gunner poured heavy fire at the conning tower of an enemy speed boat as soon as it appeared, riddling it with bullet holes.

The first strike of the KPA Navy destroyed two enemy warships and blew away the conning towers of several others.

In less than 30 minutes after the start of the naval engagement the brave KPA seamen sank two enemy warships and damaged a dozen others, inflicting over 100 casualties.

That day's battle scared the hell out of the south Korean brass hats, so they warned their warships to stay away from the north's patrol boats and particularly beware of its gunboats and machine guns. And they seized all the photographs taken and videos made during the battle by a large group of journalists and cameramen and the officers and men engaged in the battle were kept away from the outside world.

The naval battle in the West Sea demonstrated to the world once again that the KPA's declaration that it would mercilessly smash the enemy if they dare intrude even 0.001 mm into the sacred airspace, territory and territorial waters of the country is not an empty talk.

Special envoy of Chairman Kim Jong Il

Rodong Sinmun, the organ of the Workers' Party of Korea Central Committee, carried the following report in its October 1 2000 issue:

“Vice Marshal Jo Myong Rok, first vice-chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission and director of the KPA General Political Bureau, will visit the United States in the capacity of a special envoy of Comrade Kim Jong Il, chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission and supreme commander of the KPA, from October 9 Juche 89 (2000).

“He will be accompanied by Kang Sok Ju, first vice-minister of Foreign Affairs, and officials concerned.

“During his American tour, the special envoy is to meet President Clinton

and have an important talk with him. He and his entourage will also meet with the US Secretary of State and exchange views on matters of bilateral relations.

“His US visit will mark an important occasion conducive to developing relations between the DPRK and the US.”

As soon as it was aired through the media, the world public focused attention on the DPRK.

“What brings the special envoy of National Defence Commission Chairman Kim Jong Il to the US?” everyone asked.

The history of the DPRK-US showdown explains the background to the Washington tour by the special envoy.

Six years before the US had insisted on the hard-line policy aimed to stifle the DPRK.

It had come up with the “north Korean nuclear issue” to this end in the early 1990s. But the US nuclear rackets produced no expected results in the face of the high spirits of the DPRK that confronted their pressure with tough stance based on strong arms. Hence the adoption of the DPRK-US Agreed Framework.

In fact, when it adopted the AF, the US had absurdly calculated that the DPRK would collapse soon. So it signed the agreement, which stipulated that it will provide the DPRK with an LWR (light water reactor) project with a total generating capacity of 2 000 MW(e) worth billions of dollars and offset the energy forgone due to the freeze of the DPRK’s nuclear facilities with the annual delivery of 500 000 tons of heavy oil, pending the completion of the first LWR unit, on the assumption that it would fall down in two to three years at the longest. In short, it planned to calm the DPRK down with the adoption of the AF and gain time to its advantage.

However, unexpected events had taken place one after another since the

adoption of the AF in Geneva on October 21 1994.

The DPRK remained resilient on the right track despite the unexpected death of President Kim Il Sung and the unprecedented natural calamities in 100 years that hit the country in several consecutive years.

In 1998 it proudly demonstrated its national power by the historic launch of artificial earth satellite Kwangmyongsong-1.

The US was taken aback by the world-startling miracle.

Ferocious infighting took place in the US between Republican hardliners and the ruling Democrats over the north Korea policy.

As a result, the Clinton administration began to review the north Korea policy in a bid to reinforce it.

Clinton appointed William Perry, former secretary of Defense during the 1994 nuclear crisis who had a rapport with the Republican Party, as presidential special advisor and coordinator of the north Korea policy.

Perry toured Japan, China, Russia and south Korea, the areas neighbouring the DPRK, for nearly six months to check the policy.

Then he came to the conclusion that the DPRK could never be handled only by hard-line policy, appeasement should be taken as a major policy and it was the best choice to improve relations with it.

President Clinton sent him to the DPRK as his special envoy with his personal message in May 1999.

In Pyongyang Perry played the US trump card of “normalization of relations with the DPRK”, demanding it remove its “nukes and missiles”.

Then what did the US mean by the “normalized bilateral relationship”?

The north Korea policy report published in the US Congress in autumn 1999 shows what it meant.

It said that the US should not even mind establishing diplomatic relations with the DPRK if it could make the latter suspend its nuclear and

missile programmes and that it should deal with the existing system of the country and its friendly approach to north Korea should continue even after a new government is established at the expiration of the term of the current administration.

It was not only because it came to realize that the DPRK's military power could deal a direct and fatal blow to American security that the US all of a sudden played the trump card of establishing diplomatic relations it had considered to be the strongest card in breaking down the Korean socialist system.

It saw economic problems as the DPRK's Achilles heel.

But as the country steadily advanced overcoming difficulties and trials, the US came to a new conclusion that the DPRK's defence industry was an important secret of this.

It realized that as socialist Korea had directed a great deal of energy to the development of defence industry in the past, the industry was very competitive in the world though the civilian industry was comparatively weak, that the north Korean industry was apparently linked with the world market as it had such a strong defence industry, and that as long as it had this industry, particularly missile industry, its economy would never perish.

All in all, the US came up with the "scheme" of the abandonment of nuclear and missile programmes for the normalized bilateral relationship on the basis of the calculation that only when the DPRK's defence industry, missile industry in particular, is removed, can it get rid of the direct security threat from the country and then guide it to "reform" and "opening".

The DPRK made the strong principled demand that the US should respect the country's sovereignty and freedom of choice but should not do anything

detrimental to reunification in order to improve bilateral relations, it should recognize the DPRK without precondition and take actions first for normalized bilateral relationship and it should remove military threat to and conclude peace pact with the country.

As the US advocated normalized bilateral relations and suggested the return visit of a high-level delegation to the US, the DPRK demanded it lift sanctions against it.

In particular, Kim Jong Il conducted energetic diplomatic activities with China, Russia, and south Korea to provide a turning point for the bilateral and inter-Korean relationship. The US was very much apprehensive about the future, wondering if it would be excluded from dealing with the Korean peninsula issue if it remained at its wits' end only worrying about what to do.

It thought that as it would possibly be driven out of the Asia-Pacific as well as the Korean peninsula and lose the contest with other big powers in the areas centring around the peninsula, it should take decisive measures by all means to sit face to face with north Korea.

The Clinton administration gave Chairman Kim Jong Il's special envoy a presidential reception.

According to the US protocol, foreign delegations have to pay hotel and even travel expenses during their American tour.

Exceptionally, however, the US bore all the expenses for the Korean special envoy and his party. It applied the protocol of head of state's visit to them.

The US government promptly issued them with entry visas before receiving their passports and gave special orders to the American airlines to reserve their seats exclusively. Armed guards accompanied them on their shuttle flights between Beijing and Washington and the airports applied no technical formalities to them.

The border traffic inspector at San Francisco airport passed the delegation without seeing their visas. He later called on the hotel where they stayed and asked them to show him their visas as he failed to register them.

The US government provided a limousine exclusively used by the presidents and an escort for the visiting 13-member Korean delegation, a convoy of 18 cars in all. They stayed in a de luxe hotel and 20 security officers mounted round-the-clock guards in front of their hotel rooms.

The special envoy and his party met and had talks with President Clinton.

The US presidents have seldom met even the special presidential envoys of its close allies as well as those of other countries.

A special envoy of the Japanese prime minister visited Washington before the DPRK delegation came there. But Clinton did not meet him and, instead, the Secretary of State, known as the chief secretary in the US, met with him.

Clinton said he would meet the special envoy of Chairman Kim Jong Il as he was an exception.

When the DPRK special envoy handed the Chairman's personal message to him, he stood up and received it with due respect and read it before starting the talk.

During the whole period of the talk he kept the personal message on his lap. He listened to the special envoy to the last attentively despite the repeated calls from the protocol personnel signalling that time was up, and expressed his gratitude to Chairman Kim Jong Il in many ways. The appointed time was 20 minutes, but the talk lasted 50 minutes.

During their American tour the special envoy and his party also held talks with Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. The top US diplomat said she heard many stories about the distinguished qualities of NDC Chairman Kim Jong Il when she met Chinese President Jiang Jemin, Russian President

Putin and Kim Dae Jung of south Korea. And she noted she wanted to know more about him not indirectly but actually.

They also met the Secretary of Defense, a hard core of American hard-line conservatives, from the Republican camp. He flew back home from his European tour to meet the DPRK special envoy.

High-level military talks between the two countries took place for the first time in the history of bilateral relations.

As a result of their tour, the DPRK-US joint communiqué was published, in which the latter committed itself to the dropping of the policy of hostility to the former, the recognition of its sovereignty and the improvement of bilateral relations.

The joint communiqué specified that the US President would visit the DPRK to meet Chairman Kim Jong Il for the first time in history and the US Secretary of State would go to Pyongyang for the preparations for the presidential visit.

US Secretary of State visits DPRK

On October 23 2000 US Secretary of State Albright visited the DPRK, accompanied by some 200 high-ranking officials of her department.

That day Chairman Kim Jong Il met her and her party and saw the mass gymnastic and artistic performance “Ever-Victorious Workers’ Party of Korea”, which was given to celebrate the 55th anniversary of the WPK, with them in the evening.

He met Albright again the next day to have a talk and attended a reception hosted by her.

He was with her for as long as 14 hours and gave clear-cut answers to matters of DPRK-US relations and international and missile issues.

With regard to the US' most serious concern, he hit the nail on the head and gave a solution to it. He said: We launch satellite for scientific research for peaceful purposes and the US has nothing to fear. It is so afraid of our satellite as it still sees us as an enemy. There is no need to worry about it if the US is going to get along with us. We would relieve its concern if it approaches us with good will and we needn't make rockets if the US launches our satellites for free.

During the talk he gave immediate and clear-cut answers and decisions to all questions put by Albright including the complicated and acute international issues and those related to the situations in the Asia-Pacific and on the Korean peninsula, striking her with admiration.

She was so impressed that she openly said she was charmed by his answers at the talk.

As to her impression, she told a press conference that Chairman Kim Jong Il was very realistic, decisive and experienced, and well-versed in international and regional situations.

The brooch she wore when she had a talk with him showed how much she was attracted to him.

Albright has a habit of expressing her mind with her brooch. She wears a large one with the design of the Stars and Stripes to show off the strength of the US and a heart-shaped one to show that she is cordial.

When she visited Russia to meet President Putin she wore brooches showing a monkey covering its eyes, ears and mouth with both hands respectively in the morning, afternoon and evening to suggest that there was something she did not want to see, hear and speak in the country.

As Iraq denounced her as a poisonous snake she wore a brooch depicting a snake on her Mideast tour to openly show that she would act like a poisonous snake to Iraq.

Albright was wearing a stars-and-stripes brooch when she arrived at Pyongyang Airport. But she had a heart-shaped brooch at the dinner party after meeting with Chairman Kim Jong Il.

It was a typical example indicating a change in her mind in Pyongyang.

She even told him about what she was going to say in a news conference and did so.

Referring to the fact, Kartman, special envoy for the Korean peninsula peace talks who accompanied her on the tour, said that Albright was very satisfied with the tour, in particular, she was completely charmed by Chairman Kim Jong Il, she said excitedly that she came to know many new things about him and she would report to President Clinton on his personalities and outstanding qualities as a leader.

Other high-ranking officials also lavished praise on him after meeting him, saying he was a broad-minded and great man, he was benevolent with a warmhearted smile, and he was a man of foresight with an excellent art of dialogue and great negotiation capacity.

The American diplomats came to have a better understanding of the will, strength and spirit of the DPRK seeing the 100 000-strong mass gymnastic and artistic performance.

The assistant secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs said it was an enchanting and wonderful performance, the historic and national wealth of the country to be handed down to posterity and such a performance was impossible in the US.

The chief secretary of the Secretary of State said the mass gymnastic and artistic performance was so wonderful that she could find no words to describe it. She could find no trivial slip in the 100 000-strong performance, which showed that all the performers were well prepared, she noted, adding that she had never seen such a surprising and excellent perform-

ance in her life and she would be unable to see such a performance again anywhere else in the world.

No people can produce such a masterpiece unless they are united in one mind and purpose, she observed.

The US Secretary of State and her party began Pyongyang tour with a visit to the Kumsusan Memorial Palace (at the time) to pay respects to President Kim Il Sung.

No official American delegations on a visit to other countries had ever visited the biers of their late leaders to pay homage to them.

But Albright paid a call on the Kumsusan Memorial Palace and made deep bows two times to the late President of the DPRK.

She said it was right that many Korean people and foreigners visited the memorial palace to pay respect to the President and it was an impressive palace.

After her Pyongyang tour many countries moved hurriedly not to be forestalled by the US.

The UK, Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, and other West European nations that had always studied the US face in the past officially announced that they would forge ambassador-level diplomatic ties with the DPRK.

The US Secretary of State's visit to the DPRK aroused a great sensation across the world.

The world media featured Chairman Kim Jong Il's meeting with Albright, giving a wide coverage of his personality as a great man and the DPRK's victory under such headlines as "Acme of Chairman Kim Jong Il's art of diplomacy" and "Albright dancing to the tune of Chairman Kim Jong Il".

After visiting Pyongyang Madeleine Albright submitted a report to the President, in which she said she had direct talks with the north Korean leader for hours during her stay, Kim Jong Il was quite different from the type of man whom they had thought of, he was very systematic and logical

in theory, not only well-informed of the current complicated international issues but also correct in analysis and judgment of them, he dealt with all problems in a big way with broad-mindedness and intelligence, listened to his dialogue partner so carefully and attentively to the last and was so generous that it was entertaining to talk with him and therefore she was drawn deep into his theory and assertions. She noted she could not but acknowledge that the north Korean leader was, all in all, clear-cut in theory in all matters covering a wide range of politics, the economy, culture, the military, diplomacy and others, firm in confidence, broad-minded and scrupulous, and versatile.

3. Possession of nuclear deterrent

No nation has ever been placed under the nuclear threat so directly and for so long as the Korean people. For the Koreans nuclear threat is not an abstract conception but an actual and concrete experience.

Many of them had already fallen victim to the nuclear attack together with Japanese when the US dropped A-bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. They had experienced the horrific nuclear holocaust in Japan.

For them the US' A-bomb blackmail during the Korean war was really a nightmare.

On November 30 1950 US President Truman officially referred to the use of A-bomb at the Korean front and on the same day issued an order to the US Strategic Air Force to be on standby to fly bombers to drop A-bombs immediately in the Far East.

In December MacArthur, commander of the US Armed Forces in the Far East, declared that a radioactive corridor would be formed in the northern part of Korea crossing from the East to the West Seas and no living organism

would revive in the area for 60 or 120 years.

The US A-bomb blackmail gave rise to a long stream of refugees from A-bomb on the Korean peninsula flowing from the north to the south during the war. All family members could not move at the same time, so many families sent husbands or sons to the south to seek refuge there and carry on the family line. Hence the heart-rending tragedy of split of millions of families and relatives that are still living divided in the north and south on the peninsula.

The US brought nuclear weapons into the Korean peninsula for the first time.

In the late 1950s when the anti-nuclear movement heightened in Japan endangering the maintenance of pro-US regime, the US moved its nuclear weapons deployed there to south Korea. In 1957 the first batch of US tactical nuclear weapons was shipped from Japan to south Korea.

After all, the US “nuclearized” the Korean peninsula in return for the “denuclearization” of Japan.

The US steadily scaled up the deployment of nuclear weapons in south Korea, the number reaching over 1 000 in the middle of the 1970s.

It staged joint military exercises from the late 1960s to use the nuclear weapons in south Korea for a war of aggression against the DPRK. The US-south Korea joint nuclear war games, which started from Focus Retina in 1969, have continued every year for over four decades under different code-names including Freedom Bolt, Team Spirit, RSOI, Key Resolve, Foal Eagle and Ulji Freedom Guardian.

It is the stark reality on the Korean peninsula that even post-war generations have grown up exposed to the US nuclear threat.

The DPRK government has made steady efforts, largely in three stages, to remove the threat.

In the first stage it tried to neutralize the nuclear threat by way of es-

establishing a denuclearized zone through peaceful dialogue and negotiations.

In 1959 it proposed an initiative to establish a peace zone free from atomic weapons in Asia. It put forward a plan for setting up a denuclearized zone in Northeast Asia in 1981 and proposed turning the Korean peninsula into a denuclearized zone in 1986, making proactive efforts to this end.

On January 10 1984 it suggested holding tripartite talks by involving south Korea in the DPRK-US talks with an eye to clearing the country of the danger of nuclear war. It issued a statement on June 23 1986 to solemnly declare that it would neither test, produce, stockpile and bring in nuclear weapons nor allow any kinds of foreign military bases including nuclear ones to be built in the country and foreign nuclear weapons to pass through its land, airspace and territorial waters.

The US, however, turned its back on all these efforts to establish a denuclearized zone on the Korean peninsula, increasing nuclear threat to the DPRK.

In the second stage the government combined such efforts with the strivings to eliminate the US nuclear threat by relying on international law.

In 1978 the US, the USSR, the UK and other nuclear states published a statement that they would not use nukes against non-nuclear states that joined the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, though conditionally.

The DPRK joined the treaty in December 1985 in the hope of helping remove nuclear threat from the US.

As the US promised to suspend the Team Spirit nuclear war game, the DPRK rendered positive cooperation in the six rounds of ad hoc inspection the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) conducted between

May 1992 and February 1993, pursuant to the corresponding article of the NPT.

Before the UN nuclear watchdog completed its ad hoc inspection according to the Safeguards Agreement, the US instigated the impure elements of the IAEA to cook up a resolution on special inspection of not only nuclear facilities but also sensitive military sites of the DPRK, insisting on the DPRK's "suspicious nuclear development". The brigandish nature of such forcible inspection was fully revealed in the Iraqi crisis. The US rummaged about even the presidential palace in Iraq under the excuse of inspection and forged false information that it had weapons of mass destruction, which was used as a pretext for the military attack on the country. The information that Iraq had WMDs later turned out to be a forgery, but it was too late. Iraq was already ruined and the nation was plunged into a sea of blood.

The US grew more undisguised in its nuclear threat to the DPRK. It resumed the Team Spirit joint military exercise it had suspended to impose "special inspection" on it.

It became clear that the international treaty was unable to prevent nuclear threat from the US, but rather was abused as an instrument to justify its arbitrariness.

The DPRK declared its withdrawal from the NPT on March 12 1993 and notified the countries assigned to custody of the treaty of this according to Article 10 of the treaty, in order to safeguard the sovereignty and security of the country.

Later, as the US responded to the DPRK-proposed dialogue, it took measures to unilaterally suspend the effectuation of its withdrawal from the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons during the DPRK-US talks through the bilateral joint statement published on June 11 1993.

The DPRK-US Agreed Framework was adopted to settle the Korean peninsula nuclear issue on October 21 1994 during the Clinton administration, but the US unilaterally abrogated the AF during the Bush administration.

George W. Bush went so far as to designate the DPRK as part of an “axis of evil” in his State of the Union Message on January 30 2002. Such hostility of the world’s largest nuclear state to a country meant the severest nuclear threat to it.

In particular, the US published a nuclear posture review listing the DPRK as a target of its preemptive nuclear strike in March that year, plunging the security of the DPRK into danger of nuclear calamity.

It was clear that all the DPRK’s efforts, both through dialogue and by relying on international law, came to naught.

The particular situation on the Korean peninsula that could not be seen in any other parts of the world required a particular solution. The final option was to counter nukes with nukes. The US’ extreme nuclear threat compelled the DPRK to develop nukes.

In this regard, a Russian politician said: “It’s too clear what forced the DPRK to conduct the nuclear test. It is the product of the misbehaviour of the international community. Every nation would have worried about their future as they saw what the US and the West did in Yugoslavia, Iraq and Afghanistan. The DPRK keenly realized that the guarantee of its own security is only provided by itself.”

Kim Jong Il made a decision to develop nukes for national sovereignty and dignity.

In 2003 the DPRK government took a resolute self-defensive measure to totally withdraw from the NPT by putting into effect its withdrawal from the treaty which it had suspended for a decade.

Free from all the shackles of the treaty, the country legitimately and

openly directed all the stock of plutonium produced in the course of power generation at the experimental atomic power plant to making weapons.

It conducted the first nuclear test in October 2006, three years after it quit the NPT.

At a meeting with writers Chairman Kim Jong Il, very satisfied with the successful first underground nuclear test, told that he had worked hard to turn the country into a powerful nation no enemy dares to attack, always keeping in mind the behests of the President and long-cherished desire of the nation.

He noted that the successful nuclear test provided a sure guarantee for the prosperity of the country, and Songun Korea would be impregnable in any enemy attack.

The country held the second nuclear test in May 2009.

It ended the nuclear imbalance in Northeast Asia, which was packed with nuclear weapons and fully covered with nuclear umbrella leaving a single nuclear vacuum in the DPRK.

Thanks to the tireless and energetic leadership of Kim Jong Il, the DPRK joined the ranks of nuclear states and its deterrent effect helped markedly reduce the danger of war on the Korean peninsula.

This is the fruition of the DPRK's endeavours in the current stage to remove the nuclear threat not merely by appeal in words, but by practical deterrence of the American nukes with its own.

The DPRK government remains unchanged in its stand to provide a mechanism for lasting peace on the Korean peninsula and denuclearize it.

To build a nuclear-free world is the fervent desire of humankind that continues century after century.

The denuclearization of the Korean peninsula is a link in the whole chain of

the denuclearization of the world.

The peninsula denuclearization stipulated in the September 19 Joint Statement which was adopted in the six-party talks held in 2005 is a process of making the whole peninsula a nuke-free zone on the basis of completely removing substantial nuclear threat to the peninsula from outside in a verifiable way.

Denuclearization necessitates trust-building.

The earlier a peace pact is concluded on the peninsula in which the truce continues, the sooner trust will be built, which is necessary for denuclearization.

The mission of the DPRK's nuclear force is to deter and repel invasion of and attack on the country and nation until the Korean peninsula and the world are denuclearized.

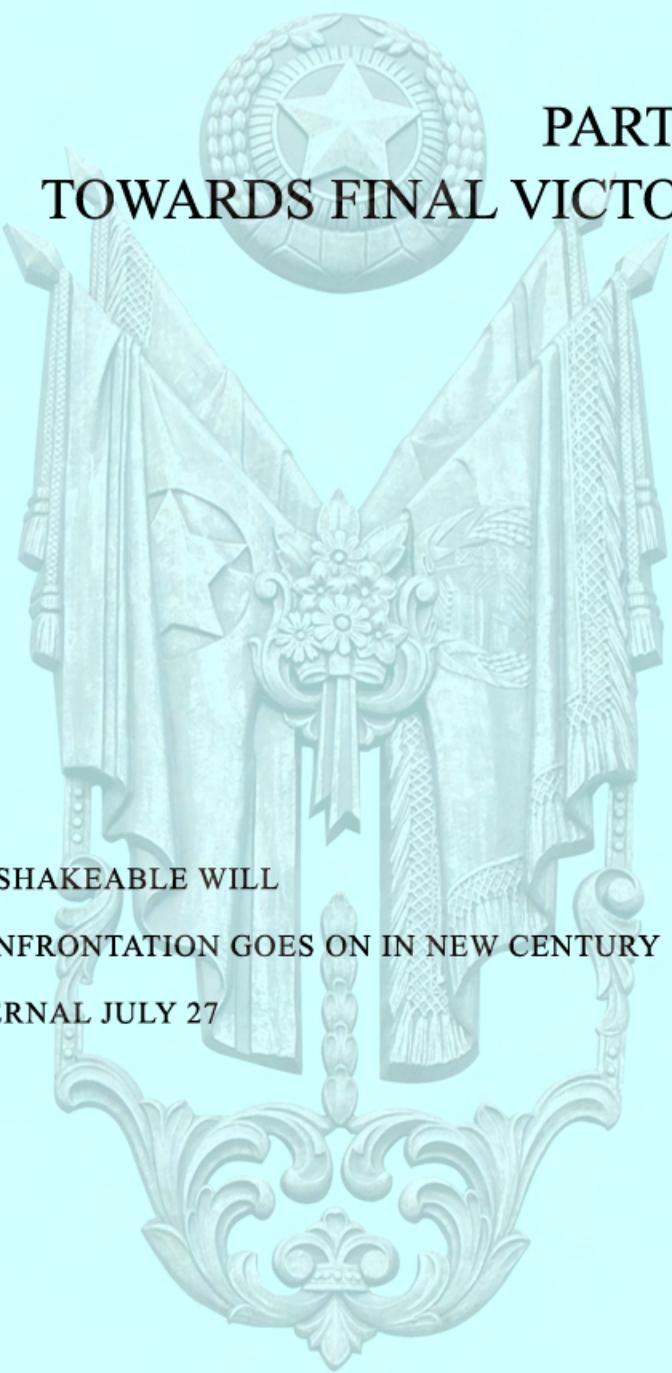
The DPRK Foreign Ministry, in its memorandum dated April 21 2010, referred to the country's nuclear policy as follows:

“The DPRK invariably maintains the policy of neither using nuclear weapons against nor threatening non-nuclear states with them, unless they are involved in invasion or attack against us in collusion with other nuclear states.

“We are willing to join in international efforts for nuclear non-proliferation and safe control of nuclear materials on an equal footing with other nuclear states.

“We will make as many nuclear weapons as we need, but never be involved in nuclear arms race or make them more than we deem necessary, and will take part in international efforts for nuclear disarmament on an equal footing with other nuclear nations.

“The DPRK will, as ever, direct constant energy to denuclearizing the Korean peninsula and the world.”



PART III
TOWARDS FINAL VICTORY

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KPA Supreme Commander Kim Jong Un returning a salute to the columns of the military parade held to mark the 100th birthday of President Kim Il Sung on April 15 Juche 101(2012).

***KPA fully ready to repulse
any aggression forces***







The Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum.



Merited Weapons Exhibition of the museum.



Captured Weapons Exhibition of the museum.



Part III TOWARDS FINAL VICTORY

The DPRK successfully launched the satellite Kwangmyongsong 3-2 in December 2012 and the hostile forces intensified anti-DPRK moves by taking advantage of this.

The situation prevailing on the Korean peninsula was graver than that on the eve of the past Korean war and the danger of nuclear war loomed larger on it.

Undaunted by this, DPRK supreme leader Kim Jong Un confronted the showdown with the US with unrivalled courage, matchless grit and indomitable spirit of offensive.

He continued a tireless field inspection tour of frontline army posts including those on Jangjae, Mu and Wolnae islets on the hottest spot, implanting in KPA officers and men confidence in victory and invincible valour and telling them operational plans to deal an annihilating blow to the enemy.

The successful third underground nuclear test was a thrilling victory the Korean army and people achieved under his wise leadership and a landmark event that made it possible to guarantee national sovereignty for all ages.

The days are gone when the imperialists threatened the DPRK with nukes and its international standing has been raised remarkably.

The eye-opening events that happened in socialist Korea hit the headlines of the world's leading media. Referring to the unreserved admiration for Kim Jong Un throughout the world, a Chinese website posted an article under the title of "Today's international situation is decided by the DPRK", which

said: “The days are gone when the nuclear powers led the mainstream of the international situation. The new and real power, the DPRK, is leading the international situation. A single word or move of socialist Korea is shaking the world. In short, the US and other big powers no longer hold the initiative in the international situation, but the DPRK.”

Thanks to Marshal Kim Jong Un’s brilliant intelligence, military acumen, matchless courage and outstanding art of command, epoch-making changes are now taking place in the DPRK’s history of the Songun revolution and the Korean people will always emerge victorious in the acute showdown with the US in the future, too.

1. Unshakeable will

Seoul Ryu Kyong Su Guards 105th Tank Division

Kim Jong Un visited the Seoul Ryu Kyong Su Guards 105th Tank Division of the Korean People’s Army on January 1 2012 and congratulated the servicemen on the new year.

Greeting the leader who came to their division as the first inspection of army units as the KPA Supreme Commander, the officers and men were so moved that they hardened their resolve to defend him at the cost of their lives.

They offered new year greetings to him reflecting the boundless reverence for him of all the KPA service personnel.

After being saluted by the unit’s commander he warmly shook hands with the commanding officers and encouraged them, saying he came to see them who would have spent days in bitter tears after the death of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

The Supreme Commander looked round the rooms dedicated to education

in revolutionary activities of the great leaders and the unit's history, guided by the commanding officers of the division.

The division was organized in August 1948 according to the brilliant foresight and strategic plan of **Kim Il Sung**. It seized Seoul three days after the Korean war started, hoisted the flag of the DPRK on top of the Capitol Building of south Korea, occupied the Seoul Broadcasting Station and announced the news about liberation of Seoul to the world. It also demonstrated the might of the heroic KPA in the battle of Taejon and many others, achieving brilliant war results.

The division is also closely associated with the revolutionary activities of the Chairman who visited it as the first step of his Songun revolutionary leadership and in the last period of his life.

Seeing the relics and material showing the leadership exploits the President and the Chairman had performed for the development of the division replete with heroic feats, he recalled with deep emotion the glorious course the unit covered as it developed into an invincible tank force.

This morning when I went to the Kumsusan Memorial Palace to say happy new year to the Chairman I felt like hearing him urging me to go to the 105th tank division, so I came here immediately, he said, adding he could feel the Chairman's strong personality and temperature even by calling the name of the division.

He then made the rounds of the operations study room, e-library and training facilities to learn about the unit's military training and combat preparedness.

The Supreme Commander highly praised the officers and men of the division for stepping up training and preparations for combat without slackening sharp vigilance while watching closely the enemy's aggressive moves.

He referred to the need to keep up the revolutionary spirit of training with

which to train day and night, enthusiasm for training as the anti-Japanese guerrillas did on Mt. Paektu, fully aware that when they do training hard in peacetime they can fulfil the sacred mission they assume on behalf of the country and the people in wartime decisive of destiny.

That day, he looked round the sub-unit under the direct control of the division.

Expressing his expectation and conviction that the service members of the division would perform proud military exploits in their posts for national defence, he had a photograph taken with them.

His inspection of the tank division on the morning of New Year's Day was a solemn declaration of his immutable faith and will to go along the road of Songun taken by Chairman Kim Jong Il for all his life to the last without the slightest deflection.

Inspection of Panmunjom

Panmunjom is located on the Military Demarcation Line in the midwest of Korea 10 kilometres away from Kaesong.

The obscure village began to be known widely since the Korean war.

The DPRK held armistice talks with the US at Panmunjom. The latter signed the armistice agreement there, admitting its defeat in the war.

Panmunjom is the hot spot on the Korean peninsula where the Korean People's Army and the US forces are standing face to face with the dividing line about a span in width in between.

On March 3 2012 Supreme Commander Kim Jong Un inspected the extremely dangerous place where a slight accidental action by each of both sides may lead to an armed clash in an instant.

He first visited the monument inscribed with President Kim Il Sung's signature.

Looking at the inscription letter after letter carefully, he recalled with deep

emotion the undying achievements made by the President who had devoted all his life to the country's reunification.

He said that Chairman Kim Jong Il had inspected Panmunjom on four occasions and seen to it that the monument was built there in order to hand down to posterity the noble love for the country and nation of the President who left his last autograph on the historic document for putting an end to the tragedy of national division and accomplishing the sacred cause of national reunification.

He then looked round Panmun Pavilion, Thongil House, rooms where armistice talks were held and the armistice agreement was signed, and other places.

He pointed to the need to properly preserve and manage the rooms associated with the history of the great victorious Fatherland Liberation War against the imperialist allied forces and the pavilion and house mirroring the Korean people's reunification will in order to show them to younger generations who would live in a reunified country.

Saying it is necessary to add brilliance generation after generation to the war victory exploits of heroic Korea which startled the world by beating off the imperialist allied forces including the US, he declared that if a war breaks out our army and people would bring the enemy to their knees and make them sign a surrender document, not an armistice agreement.

Our people, who are well aware that the defence of socialism means victory and the abandonment of it means death, are speeding up a march for great upswing for accomplishing the cause of a thriving nation building, courageously smashing all challenges and moves of the imperialists and reactionaries, he stated.

As our servicemen on the outpost are impregably defending the gateway to the motherland, our people can sleep in peace and the Supreme Commander

feels secure, he noted, and said he firmly believes in them who are standing guard over Panmunjom.

Urging the guards to be a good example to the entire army politically, ideologically and in military techniques, he gave the unit a pair of binoculars, automatic rifle and machine gun as gifts and posed for a picture with them.

Waving back to the cheering guards with a broad smile on his face for a while, he gave them the thumbs up.

His inspection of Panmunjom was a manifestation of his iron will to reunify the country, fulfilling the lifetime wish of the President and the Chairman.

Opening of KPA Military Hardware Museum

On April 14 2012 the inaugural ceremony of the Military Hardware Museum of the Korean People's Army took place in splendour.

The magnificent museum in Pyongyang houses thousands of pieces of weapons and other combat equipment from small arms to various guns, tanks, armoured vehicles, warships, warplanes and strategic rockets manufactured in the munitions factories of the country.

The museum is a treasure of treasures showcasing the glorious history of arms and tremendous might of socialist Korea.

President Kim Il Sung, who started the Songun revolution with the two pistols incorporating the lofty aim of Jiwon (Aim High) in his early years and created the precious tradition of armed equipment of the revolutionary army in the flames of the anti-Japanese war, put forward the line and policies on the establishment of Juche-oriented defence industry and wisely led the efforts to implement them.

Chairman Kim Jong Il put forward the strengthening of military capabili-

ties as an important affair for defending the destiny of the country and nation and socialism and gave top priority to the development of defence industry to arm the KPA with modern weapons and other combat equipment from the early days of his Songun revolutionary leadership.

Until the last moment of his life he worked heart and soul to develop the defence industry into a state-of-the-art industry capable of manufacturing any latest military equipment.

It is the greatest achievement the President and the Chairman made for the country that they turned Korea, which had been subjected to humiliation of national ruin for lack of even muskets, into an invincible military power like today.

Supreme leader Kim Jong Un endowed with noble loyalty and moral obligation took steps to build the museum splendidly in line with the requirements of the new century with the intention to add brilliance to the achievements of the preceding supreme commanders for all eternity.

Under his energetic and meticulous leadership the museum was erected as a world-level monument in a short time.

Diplomatic envoys and military attaches who looked round the museum expressed their admiration for the military hardware reliably guaranteeing the invincible military might of socialist Korea.

The KPA Military Hardware Museum was just like a big gun levelled at the US persisting in the provocative manoeuvres to isolate and stifle the DPRK and start another war against it.

“Forward towards final victory!”

A military parade in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the birth of President Kim Il Sung took place in grand style at Kim Il Sung Square in Pyongyang on April 15 2012.

In his congratulatory speech Supreme Commander Kim Jong Un noted that the geopolitical position of the country is the same as ever, but the weak country of yesterday, which was trodden underfoot as a theatre of wrangling among big powers to expand the sphere of their influence, has been turned into a proud political and military power and the Korean people are demonstrating their dignity as an independent people whom no one dares to provoke.

The history of our army, which made its start with two pistols and has developed into a matchless force that terrifies the imperialist aggressors, is unprecedented in the world history of army building, he stated.

The military and technological edge is no longer the monopoly of imperialists, and the era is gone forever when the enemy would threaten us with atomic bombs, he declared.

The flags bearing the beaming images of President Kim Il Sung and General Kim Jong Il will flutter forever in the van of our revolutionary ranks that achieve only victory and glory, always inspiring us to fresh victories, he underlined, and concluded his speech with the militant call “Forward towards final victory!”

His speech was featured by more than 12 000 media organizations around the world which were viewed by hundreds of millions of people on the five continents.

The world’s media including CCTV and Hong Kong Phoenix Satellite TV of China reported the news all at once under such titles as “Kim Jong Un era sets sail in DPRK”.

They specially carried the scenes of the Korean soldiers and people cheering as their supreme leader called “Forward towards final victory!” and gave accounts of the news under such headlines as “Korean leader declares military and technological edge is no longer the monopoly of the imperialists” and “Leader Kim Jong Un calls for advancing towards final victory of DPRK”.

Lead it to war for national reunification

The US announced that it would stage the Ulji Freedom Guardian joint military exercise with south Korea from August 20 to 31 2012.

It planned to involve in the military drill over 30 000 US troops, some 56 000 south Korean troops, more than 440 000 civilians and military personnel from different countries that had taken part in the Korean war under the cloak of the UN forces.

In connection with this, the representative of the Panmunjom Mission of the Korean People's Army sent a notice of protest to the US forces side for driving the situation in and around the Korean peninsula to the brink of war with reckless war games.

The US gave a "prior notice based on faith and transparency" in a bid to disguise the offensive character of the military drill as "annual and defensive", but the KPA rejected it resolutely.

The KPA expressed its adamant will to retaliate against the US, warning that the latter would get nothing but disgrace and self-ruin through its rash anti-DPRK military act.

To cope with its provocative move to enforce the joint war game at any cost, the KPA troops occupied their combat positions and got fully ready for decisive battle.

Around that time, on August 17 2012 Supreme Commander Kim Jong Un inspected islet defending units in the hottest spot in the southernmost part of the southwest of the front.

The first leg of his inspection tour was the Jangjae Islet Defending Unit within hailing distance from Yonphyong Island where the enemy were entrenched.

He arrived at the unit in the early morning aboard a 27 hp wooden boat.

Up on the observation post he acquainted himself with the disposition of fire emplacements and the targets of the unit.

He instructed officers about the matters of fully providing the unit with military equipment and increasing the density of firepower to cope with the hectic reinforcement of the nearby enemy.

He told them to get fully ready for combat so that they could fire shells at any time when the order was issued, and deal a hard blow to the enemy if they fired, still failing to come to their senses.

Entrusting the defence of Jangjae Islet, a gateway in the southwest of the front, to the service personnel of the unit, he gave them a pair of binoculars, automatic rifle and machine gun as gifts.

He then made his way to the Mu Islet Defending Unit.

The unit has a proud record of having shown the mettle of the KPA artillery by crushing with a merciless shower of fire the provocation of the south Korean troops who enforced reckless artillery firing.

He climbed up to the observation post along the steep road that got slippery due to the rain that fell the day before.

He said the enemy on Yonphyong Island were severely struck by the dead hits the soldiers of the unit showered with surging hatred as they recklessly fired shells to Mu Islet, not knowing whence the annihilating shower of fire came.

He proposed conferring the title of hero on Gun 1 and the Mu Islet Defending Unit that demonstrated the mettle of the KPA artillery.

He got familiar with the topography there and the deployment of troops and preparations for combat of the unit. He said he came to the unit to check how it made preparations for combat to deal with the enemy's reinforcement of various weapons on Yonphyong Island, adding he was very satisfied.

He described the place as the most contentious waters of the Korean peninsula and a very sensitive area on which the attention of the world is focused

and where the interests of many countries are intertwined.

Saying the US and south Korean troops were frequently staging war games reeking of gunpowder in the area, he dubbed the enemy's moves disgraceful behaviour that deserves denunciation as they jeopardize peace and stability in the region and the rest of the world as well as the country.

He told the service members of the Mu Islet Defending Unit to follow the enemy's every move with vigilance and, if even a single shell is dropped in the waters or area where the DPRK's sovereignty is exercised, make an annihilating counterattack at once in order never to miss the opportunity that cannot be bought even for a thousand pieces of gold.

If the enemy drop even a single spark of fire on our territory as they dare fire shells clumsily, you should not confine it to a local war in the southwest of the front, but lead it to a sacred war for national reunification, he said resolutely.

He ordered them to make the West Sea the last grave of the enemy if the aggressors enforce a war.

He expressed his expectation and conviction that the service members of the Mu Islet Defending Unit would perform proud exploits in the sacred fight for national defence and gave them a pair of binoculars, automatic rifle and machine gun as gifts.

“Let us be confident of victory”

August 25 2012 was the 52nd anniversary of Chairman Kim Jong Il's start of Songun revolutionary leadership.

On his inspection tour of the east of the front Supreme Commander Kim Jong Un, together with service members, saw a frontline performance given by the Moranbong Band in celebration of the anniversary.

Starting with the playing of the national anthem, the art performance im-

pressively showed the undying achievements the Chairman had made while leading the Songun revolution.

The Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK National Defence Commission arranged a banquet to mark the occasion.

Kim Jong Un attended the banquet.

Also present there were members of the WPK Central Committee, the WPK Central Military Commission and the DPRK National Defence Commission, commanding officers of the KPA Army, Navy, Air and Anti-aircraft Force and Strategic Rocket Force and commanders of the combined units in the east of the front.

The Supreme Commander delivered a speech in the banquet.

Describing August 25, together with April 25, as a historic day that would go down in the history of the building of the Korean revolutionary armed forces and the history of the country, he said that associated with this day are the strength of the KPA, which takes pride in being a powerful Paektusan revolutionary army, and the image of the DPRK, which has emerged as a world-class military giant and dignified nuclear state.

He noted that it is the unshakeable determination and will of the Party to defend the security of the country and the gains of the revolution and build on this land a reunified thriving country, grasping more firmly the arms of Songun Generalissimo Kim Jong Il provided with much effort through his lifelong Songun-based revolutionary leadership.

He said the US and the south Korean troops, together with the following forces of the US, were staging large-scale war drills of aggression targeting on the DPRK, thus seriously threatening its security, and continued:

“While inspecting the army units at the outposts of the southwestern sector of the front, I have already issued to the entire army the order to keep a

sharp watch on the enemy's reckless moves and, should they throw even one spark on our holy territory or territorial waters, immediately deal an annihilating counterblow and rise up as one to switch over to an all-round counterattack for achieving the great cause of national reunification, reviewed the corresponding operations plan and written down my final signature on it.

“Right at this moment, the brave service personnel of the People's Army have taken up combat positions at my order to cope with the reckless war manoeuvres by the US and its south Korean puppets, waiting for an order for final charge to fight a life-and-death fight against the enemy.

“There is a limit to our tolerance.

“Counter provocations with an immediate counteroffensive, and an aggressive war with a war of justice for the country's reunification—this is our principled stand and unshakeable will.

“We will never remain onlookers to the enemy's desperate moves for aggression; we will do all we can to defend the destiny of the country and nation.

“It is a truth confirmed by history that nobody in the world can check the advance of a people who have turned out for their cause of justice.

“If another undesirable war breaks out on this land as a consequence of the unpardonable actions of the US and its south Korean puppets, they will sustain an ignominious defeat in the war and our great nation will greet a bright dawn of reunification.

“Only victory and glory are in store for us who are advancing under the unfurled flag bearing the immortal beaming images of the great Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il.

“Today, availing myself of this meaningful occasion, I reaffirm my determination to invariably follow the road of Songun for our motherland and revolution, the road travelled by General Kim Jong Il, arm in arm and shoulder to shoulder with you, my comrades.

“Comrades, let us be confident of victory.

“A brilliant future lies before our people.”

The speech he delivered in the banquet greatly excited all the KPA officers and men and other people.

The service members kept it as their faith that victory is always Korea's as there is Kim Jong Un.

2. Confrontation goes on in new century

DPRK's launch of satellite

On December 12 2012 the DPRK launched earth satellite Kwangmyongsong 3-2 and inserted it into orbit.

At 09:49:46 am, carrier rocket Unha-3 blasted off with the satellite on board.

The first, second and third motors were separated successfully and the satellite was placed in its orbit at 09:59:13 am, 9 minutes 27 seconds after the blast-off.

Kwangmyongsong 3-2 began to travel the polar orbit at the orbital gradient of 97.4 degrees, with the perigee being 499.7 kilometres, the apogee 584.18 kilometres and the period 95 minutes 29 seconds.

The mission of the 100 per cent home-made satellite is to estimate the distribution of forest resources, natural disaster and grain output of the country and collect information needed for weather forecast, resource prospecting and the like.

The DPRK scientists and technicians carried out everything from designing to manufacture, assembly, launch and observation after lift-off by their own efforts, and their exploit greatly excited all the servicemen and people.

The DPRK celebrated the launch of the application satellite as an event of

national jubilation.

After examining whether or not the points where the three stages were separated and fell tallied with the figures made public by the DPRK, the US reported that the satellite was correctly inserted into orbit as was designed.

But until then, the world could not even guess the fact that the DPRK scientists modified the trajectory of the rocket in order to drop the second stage on the open sea, not on the international sea route or residential area.

The world-famous Baikonur Cosmodrome is a plain semi-desert area. There is no resident in and around the area as well as the areas in the direction of rocket launch. It has more than 300 sunny days a year. Particularly, as it is near the equator the velocity of the rotation of the earth can be exploited additionally at the time of lift-off.

But the Sohae Launching Site in the Cholsan area in the DPRK has comparatively unfavourable conditions that arouse additional technical problems.

The Korean scientists in their 30s and 40s, however, successfully sent off the carrier rocket by overcoming all these adverse conditions.

The DPRK consolidated its status as a space power with the successful launch of Kwangmyongsong 3-2.

The satellite launch created quite a stir throughout the world.

A Russian newspaper said the DPRK did not change its line, commenting on the satellite launch it made in defiance of the ban enforced by the UN Security Council.

The Interfax news agency reported that Russia's anti-missile early warning system recorded the launch of the carrier rocket.

The US obtained information about it from the missile defence information system.

The North American Aerospace Defence Command notified that the north Korean satellite appeared in the orbit around the earth.

American military officials recognized that the DPRK successfully inserted its satellite into orbit.

A famous Russian space expert said that the DPRK's injection of an effective payload amounting to hundreds of kilograms into orbit means that the country has come close to the point capable of carrying nuclear warhead to any spot on the earth.

When the Korean people were celebrating the satellite launch as a mega event of the nation, the Americans got so nervous that they raised a hue and cry, talking as if a war was imminent and clamouring for deploying the interceptor missile system in the sea around the Korean peninsula.

The US called for convening a UN Security Council meeting and busied itself with cooking up a resolution on sanctions against the DPRK.

Head-on confrontation

After making persistent attempts to arrest the victorious advance of the DPRK the US and its following forces hammered out a UNSC resolution blatantly violating the country's inalienable sovereignty on January 22 2013.

The resolution concocted under the baton of the US was run through with outrageous and hostile steps aiming at banning the DPRK's satellite launch for peaceful purposes and tightening sanctions to hinder its economic development and defence buildup.

It was self-deception and the height of double standards for them to insist that the DPRK's satellite launch is problematic as it "used ballistic missile technology", as they knew better than any others that ballistic missile technology is the only means of launching satellite and they launched satellites more than any others.

The essence of the issue was the US brigandish logic that a country to which the US is hostile should not be allowed to launch satellite even for

peaceful purposes because any carrier rocket launched by it can be converted into a long-range ballistic missile threatening the US. And the UNSC was a marionette of the US.

The resolutions that were used as a means of making an issue of the DPRK's satellite launches were the products of the blind obedience to the US hostile policy seeking the DPRK's disarmament and its system overthrow the UNSC practised in violation of the universally accepted international law.

The reality clearly showed once again that the DPRK should counter the US hostile policy with strength, not with words.

To cope with the prevailing situation the DPRK Foreign Ministry issued a statement on January 23 2013. It said:

“First, the DPRK flatly rejects the unjust acts of the UNSC aimed at wantonly violating its sovereignty and depriving it of the right to launch satellites for peaceful purposes.

“Second, the DPRK will continue to exercise its independent and legitimate right to launch satellites for peaceful purposes pursuant to the universally recognized international law on the use of space for peaceful purposes.

“Third, the DPRK has come to the final conclusion that the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula is impossible unless the denuclearization of the world is realized now that it has become clear that the US continues to pursue a policy hostile to the DPRK.

“Fourth, the DPRK will take steps for physical counteraction to bolster its military capabilities for self-defence, including the nuclear deterrent, both qualitatively and quantitatively to cope with the ever more undisguised moves of the US to apply sanctions and pressure.”

Saying that the September 19 joint statement adopted at the six-party talks on the principle of respect for sovereignty and equality had now become defunct and the prospects for the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula had

become gloomier due to the ever more pronounced US hostile policy towards the DPRK, the statement declared that there may be dialogue for peace and stability in the Korean peninsula and the region in the future, but not for the denuclearization of the peninsula.

The National Defence Commission of the DPRK also released a statement on January 24 2013 to solemnly declare that all the Korean people would turn out in an all-out face-off for defending the sovereignty of the country. It noted:

“Ours are not such an army and people that sit idle seeing national sovereignty infringed upon and the country’s supreme interests trampled down.

“To cope with the prevailing situation, they will turn out as one in the full face-off to defend the sovereignty they regard as more precious than their lives and smash the moves of the US and all other hostile forces to isolate and stifle the DPRK.

“Their efforts to build an economically developed country, their campaign for conquering outer space that has entered a new stage and their bolstering the deterrent for protecting national defence and security will be directed and subjected to the all-out face-off intended to destroy the plots of the US and other hostile forces.

“The DPRK does not hide the fact that various satellites and long-range rockets it will continue to launch and the high-level nuclear test it is planning to undertake will aim at the US, the sworn enemy of the Korean people, in this all-out face-off, a new phase of the anti-US struggle that has been waged century after century.

“It is the best way to settle accounts with the US that regards the law of the jungle as the principle of existence only with arms, not in words.”

Through the successive statements the DPRK clarified its will to launch into an all-out face-off with the US in order to safeguard the sovereignty of the

country and nation.

Supreme Commander Kim Jong Un convened and presided over a consultative meeting of officials in charge of state security and foreign affairs to cope with the grave situation.

He heard about the new situation and developments that were taking place in and around the Korean peninsula.

At the meeting, he expressed his resolute determination to take substantial, highly tough and important state measures to cope with the situation as the National Defence Commission and the Foreign Ministry had already clarified in their statements that powerful physical countermeasures would be taken to defend the dignity of the nation and the sovereignty of the country, and assigned specific tasks to the officials.

After the meeting the supreme leader presided over an enlarged meeting of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea.

It was attended by members of the WPK Central Military Commission, operations command staff of the Supreme Headquarters of the Korean People's Army and commanding officers of the Navy, Air and Anti-aircraft Force, Strategic Rocket Force and large combined units.

Kim Jong Un made a concluding speech which would serve as guidelines in further strengthening the KPA into the invincible revolutionary army of Paektusan and defending the security and sovereignty of the country as required by the Party and the developing revolution.

The participants in the meeting hardened their resolve to thoroughly carry out the tasks put forward in the concluding speech of the supreme leader who was ushering in a heyday in boosting the military capability of the country with matchless courage and grit.

The meeting marked an important occasion in building up the country's defence capability in every way.

Declaration of right to preemptive nuclear strike

On February 12 2013 the DPRK successfully held the third underground nuclear test at the northern underground nuclear test ground.

It was conducted as part of substantial countermeasures to defend the security and sovereignty of the country in order to provide against the ferocious acts of hostility of the US that wantonly violated the DPRK's legitimate right to launch satellite for peaceful purposes.

Unlike the previous ones, a smaller and lighter atomic bomb with higher explosive power was put to the test, which was made safely and perfectly on a high level, and it was confirmed that it had no negative effect on the surrounding ecological environment.

As all the measurements related to the action and explosive power of the A-bomb fully conformed to the design values, the good performance of the multifarious nuclear deterrent of the country was physically manifested.

The successful third underground nuclear test fully demonstrated the true merits of the DPRK that does not make even an iota of concession or compromise in the struggle against the hostile forces to defend national sovereignty.

Through the nuclear test the DPRK declared to the world its steadfast will not to yield to any sanctions and blockade, military threat and pressure of the imperialists and their followers, but staunchly defend its national dignity, sovereignty and security with powerful counteractions.

Organizations and personages from different countries released statements and published articles to express their support to the successful nuclear test of socialist Korea.

The Russian group for solidarity with the DPRK, in a statement, said the

nuclear deterrent is the only means to keep the US from forcing its opinion on the DPRK in the present-day world where the US imperialists are imposing their own will on the other nations.

Vishwanath, the then director-general of the International Institute of the Juche Idea, released a statement, in which he said the DPRK's nuclear test was the product of the US policy of hostility. Should it not give up the policy of hostility to the DPRK, it would suffer a more humiliating defeat by the Korean people who value national sovereignty as their life, he noted.

The DPRK representative addressed the plenary meeting of the Geneva Disarmament Conference on February 27 2013, saying:

“Originally, the DPRK had neither planned nor deemed it necessary to carry out the third nuclear test.

“But the US barred it in every way from concentrating on economic construction and the improvement of the people's living standards in a peaceful and stable environment.

“The US policy of hostility towards the DPRK entered a grave phase and the latter was kept from carrying on economic construction and the undertakings to improve the people's living standards at ease. Under the critical situation the DPRK was compelled to make a crucial decision.

“That was the third underground nuclear test.

“The US is wholly to blame for causing the Korean peninsula situation to reach such an unpredictable state as of today.”

Kim Jong Un energetically led the work to further enhance the combat capability of the KPA in every way to cope with the prevailing situation.

He guided the live-fire attack tactical exercise of a sub-unit under KPA Large Combined Unit 526.

The attack drill reminding viewers of an actual war fully showed the KPA's fighting stamina and mettle to crush the enemy with immediate and merciless

charge even that day if the Supreme Commander issued an order.

Flight and parachuting drills of airborne troops of the KPA Air and Anti-aircraft Force and KPA Large Combined Unit 630 took place under his guidance.

As the flight drill began, air squadrons suddenly appeared with a whirl, flew high up into the air and swooped down on the “enemy position”.

The pilots executed the take-off from and landing on the road correctly according to the situation given by the Supreme Commander.

It was followed by the parachuting drill.

Though it was very windy the paratroopers properly performed the combat actions and movements they had practised in ordinary trainings to land on the correct drop zone.

Whenever the brave squadrons and combatants fulfilled their assigned tasks, Kim Jong Un said “Well done” and repeatedly praised them, expressing great satisfaction.

He also ordered and guided a fire strike drill of KPA artillery units to check their actual fighting capacity on the spot.

The artillerymen fired guns with a burning determination to annihilate the enemy and reduced the “enemy position” to ashes, an apparent declaration that the enemy who try to encroach on national dignity and sovereignty will never escape the strike of the KPA.

He noted that if the drill led to a real fight, the retaliatory strike of the enraged powerful revolutionary army of Paektusan would beat the enemy soundly so that they would be unable to raise their head to see the sky again.

The drill clearly demonstrated the do-or-die will of the KPA never to look over any slight form of war games and act of provocation of the enemy by regarding them as an intolerable insult and challenge to it.

Saying he issued an order unexpectedly to check the combat preparedness

of the units, the Supreme Commander noted that day's military exercise convinced him once again that all the officers and men were on high alert, waiting for the order of the Supreme Commander for final attack.

That day he also saw the military hardware newly developed by the KPA.

The US, however, moved towards heightening military pressure on the DPRK as if to test the do-or-die will of the KPA that launched into an all-out showdown with the imperialists, single-mindedly united behind the Supreme Commander.

It staged the Foal Eagle joint military exercise in south Korea from March 1 2013.

Involved in the drill that went on until April 30 were the US forces including some 10 000 troops stationed abroad and over 200 000 south Korean troops.

It also announced that the Key Resolve joint military exercise slated to be mounted between March 11 and 21 would involve some 3 500 American troops, over 10 000-strong south Korean forces and the nuclear carrier USS George Washington, B-52 strategic bomber and other latest military hardware for nuclear war.

As part of the military drill some 8 000-strong US troop reinforcements left the continental US, the Pacific regions and Japan for the Korean peninsula in early March.

It was the most dangerous nuclear war racket and the most undisguised act of military provocation targeting the DPRK as massive ground, naval and aerial nuclear strike means were dispatched to it, including the naval task force of the super large nuclear-powered carrier loaded with over 100 nuclear warheads and strategic bomber of the US, and it involved the south Korean troops and forces of several satellite nations including the UK and Australia.

The spokesman for the KPA Supreme Headquarters released a statement

on March 5 2013 to provide against the prevailing grave situation.

He declared that more powerful and substantial second and third counter-measures would be taken in succession to counter the vicious war moves of the hostile forces and the Korean Armistice Agreement would totally be nullified from March 11 when the war game would enter a full-scale stage.

He reaffirmed that the final victory was in store for the KPA and the people who turned out for the defence of national sovereignty.

The dark cloud of war was looming larger on the Korean peninsula due to the vicious US moves.

Kim Jong Un inspected again Jangjae and Mu islets in the hottest spot at the southernmost of the southwest section of the front on March 7 2013.

That day he ascertained again the newly reinforced firing strike means and targets of the south Korean forces on the five islands in the West Sea including the units defending Yonphyong islands and fixed the order of precision strike.

The officers and men of the army, navy, air and anti-aircraft force and the strategic rocket force including those of frontline units are fully ready to start an all-out war of our style, he said, noting emphatically that if the enemy committed a reckless act of provocation even a bit in the sensitive waters again, he would issue an order to make a just grand advance for national reunification on the whole front without missing the golden opportunity.

On the same day the DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman stated that the country would exercise the right to preemptive nuclear strike on the strongholds of the invaders to safeguard its supreme interests.

If the US ignites the fuse of war eventually, only aggressors and the cursed Military Demarcation Line would be burned to ashes in the flames of justice that would flare like an active volcano, the statement declared.

On land devoid of armistice agreement

On March 7 2013 the US-led UN Security Council forged a resolution on sanctions against the DPRK again on the pretext of its third nuclear test.

The US is the ringleader that compelled the country to conduct self-defensive underground nuclear tests by grossly violating the legitimate right to satellite launch of the sovereign state and escalating the campaign to stifle it.

If the UNSC had a spark of fairness, it should have made an issue of the hostile acts of the US that forced socialist Korea, which was intent on economic construction and improvement of the people's livelihood, to hold nuclear tests.

It, however, had turned a blind eye to the root cause of the Korean peninsula nuclear issue from the beginning and sided with the US' unilateral demand and arguments, following the wrong track leading to a vicious cycle of escalated tension.

The UNSC forged resolutions on sanctions against the DPRK five times in the past eight years at the instigation of the US, resulting in the qualitative and quantitative buildup of the DPRK's nuclear deterrent, contrary to what they had intended.

The DPRK had already made clear its stand that if the US finally chose the path of conflict, it would lead it to a grand war for national reunification by taking strong countermeasures in succession.

The KPA officers and men were enraged by the new resolution the US cooked up by abusing the UNSC.

The KPA Supreme Headquarters abrogated the Korean Armistice Agreement on March 11 2013 as it had already declared.

As the agreement on the suspension of hostile military acts in Korea

which was signed at Panmunjom at 10:00 on July 27 1953 became invalid, the Korean peninsula situation became utterly unpredictable.

The abrogation of the armistice agreement, it was the choice of justice of the DPRK that rose up in the anti-US resistance to defend national sovereignty which is more precious than life.

The Panmunjom Mission the KPA tentatively set up and operated as a negotiation mechanism for peace-keeping on the Korean peninsula also halted its activities.

A hair-trigger situation was created on the peninsula that could lead to an outbreak of war at any time.

On March 11 2013 when the situation was as acute as never before, KPA Supreme Commander Kim Jong Un inspected the unit defending Wolnae Islet, an outpost in the west of the front within hailing distance from Paengnyong Island.

He specified the order of strike and the density of artillery fire to smash the enemy targets, including radar stations, artillery locators, Harpoon launching base, 130 mm multiple launch rocket system and 155 mm self-propelled howitzer companies of the south Korean 6th marine brigade, for the accompanying officers of the islet defending unit and the artillery commanding officers of the 4th corps.

There is a Korean saying “He who likes to play with fire perishes in fire,” he said, and instructed them to sweep the enemy into the melting pot once he issued an order as they were playing with fire frequently in the sensitive hot spot to be burned to death.

He then told the commander of the islet defending unit to take photos of the enemy position to be reduced to a sea of fire and mercilessly smashed on the day of fight and transmit them to the Supreme Headquarters.

That day he inspected the long-range artillery sub-unit under KPA Unit 641.

He saw the guns of the sub-unit and assigned it a task to turn into ashes the headquarters of the south Korean 6th marine brigade and battalions under it with a merciless shower of fire if the enemy on Paengnyong Island made a move.

He also directed a live-fire drill to assess the combat capability for real war of the artillery units in the hot spot, which would be involved in the strike on Yonphyong and Paengnyong islands.

At the time senior US officials let loose a series of twisted remarks that the DPRK's access to nukes was causing tensions, concealing their wrongdoing of having compelled the DPRK to resort to nukes.

The US miscalculated that the DPRK developed nukes to use them as a bargaining chip for any economic benefit.

As a treasure sword to protect the country's sovereignty and security, the DPRK's nukes are designed to put an end to the persistent US' nuclear threat and blackmail that have lasted for over half a century and deal a merciless blow to the bases of aggression no matter where they are located in the world.

As part of the overt threats to the DPRK, the US again sent B-52 strategic bombers for preemptive nuclear strike and committed a nuclear submarine as well to the Korean peninsula, saying that it was a "strong warning message" to the DPRK and it would "face it with power". The Korean People's Army retorted that the Anderson airbase in Guam, from which B-52s take off, and naval bases in Okinawa and other places of Japan, where nuclear submarines are based, are within the range of its precision strike means.

With tensions reaching new heights, KPA Supreme Commander Kim Jong Un on March 20 2013 directed the target strike drill by super-precision drones and the live-fire drill of a self-propelled anti-missile system that intercepted low-flying cruise missiles of the enemy.

He said that if the enemy dared to move in disregard of the invincible power of the KPA, he would give an order to scorch the military installations and government organs in the southern half of the country, as well as related

facilities of those countries that side with the US in its anti-DPRK war of aggression and US military bases in the Pacific operational zone at large.

“It is no time to talk for now. If a fight breaks out at the moment, show no mercy to smash down the enemies and wipe out all with no one left to sign the surrender document,” he said.

He ordered that every coordinate of the enemy targets in the operational area in the south should be gathered and input into the super-precision home-grown drones so that they could carry out a point strike at any time. And he specified important tasks to be tackled in completing the KPA's combat preparedness as required by the prevailing situation.

He inspected the headquarters of KPA Unit 1973 on March 22 and two days later visited KPA Unit 1501 to see advanced combat equipment developed by the unit.

On March 25 he gave a sudden order of manoeuvres to the KPA army and navy combined units in the east of the front and east coastal areas to totally check their capacity for landing and anti-landing operations.

Meanwhile, US' nuclear war moves were overstepping the line and assumed an aspect of actual war.

According to its revelations, at around 8:00 am on March 25 the US suddenly sent a squadron of B-52 nuclear bombers based in the Anderson airbase on Guam to fly over south Korea and at about 11:50 am the aircraft waged an intensive drill of dropping mock nuclear bombs on the simulated targets in the depth of the DPRK.

While giving detailed accounts of the 2010 raid that killed Osama bin Laden, south Korea's conservative media openly said that the operations plan of the south Korea-US combined forces involves a scenario to remove the supreme dignity of the DPRK.

In connection with this, the Supreme Headquarters of the Korean People's Army announced that the Korean army and people would demonstrate their reso-

lute will to protect the country's sovereignty and supreme dignity through actual military actions and all the field artillery forces, including strategic rocket force and long-range artillery units would be placed on A-class combat preparedness.

The DPRK Ministry of Foreign Affairs upon authorization officially put the UN Security Council on notice that the Korean peninsula was teetering on the brink of a nuclear war due to the moves of the US and south Korea to provoke a nuclear war.

The Korean army and people turned out in the final stage of the all-around stand-off against the US to protect the country's sovereignty and national dignity, closely rallied around the Supreme Headquarters.

KPA Supreme Commander Kim Jong Un at 0:30 am on March 29 convened an emergency council of war to set up the striking tasks of the KPA Strategic Rocket Force.

He examined and put his final signature to the hit plan of the Strategic Rocket Force in the meeting attended by the chief of the KPA General Staff, director of the Operations Bureau, director of the General Reconnaissance Bureau, and commander of the Strategic Rocket Force.

Noting that the flights of B-2A Stealth bombers of the US to south Korea were not merely a military demonstration to respond to the DPRK's tough stance, but an ultimatum to trigger a nuclear war at any cost on the Korean peninsula, he said that a full stop should be put to the era when the US was blackmailing the DPRK with nukes.

He added that the revolutionary armed forces would respond to the US' nuclear blackmail with merciless nuclear strikes and to the war of aggression with an all-out war of justice.

And he also ordered the KPA strategic rockets to be on standby to assault the US military bases in the Pacific operational zone including the continental US, Hawaii and Guam and south Korea-based ones as well, and signed the plan for technical arrangements of strategic rockets.

The crucial decision he made under the critical situation, in which a nuclear war might break out at any moment owing to the US, marked a turning point in putting an end to the confrontation with the US that has witnessed the turn of a century and opening a new chapter of history.

March 2013 Plenary Meeting of WPK Central Committee

A historic plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea took place on March 31 2013.

Supreme leader Kim Jong Un delivered a report on the first agenda item “On the Party's tasks of bringing about a decisive turn in accomplishing the revolutionary cause of Juche in line with the requirements of the present situation and the developing revolution”.

He said that the enemies were frightened by the soaring mettle of the Korean army and people, who were confidently charging forward for final victory under the Party's leadership, and they enlisted all their political, economic and military strength in their desperate attempt to isolate and stifle the DPRK, driving the country's situation to the brink of war.

He noted that proceeding from the requirements of the prevailing situation and the developing revolution, the Party Central Committee put forth the new strategic line of simultaneously carrying on economic construction and nuclear arms buildup.

“This line is a strategic line for directing greater efforts to economic construction while consolidating the country's defence capabilities by developing the nuclear forces which the great General bequeathed to us, thus building a thriving country in which our people would enjoy all the benefits of socialism,” he said.

To push economic construction and nuclear arms buildup simultaneously

is the most correct line based on the requirements of the prevailing situation.

The Korean Party and government intended to concentrate efforts on economic construction by relying on the self-defensive war deterrent the great leaders had built all their lives so that the people would not tighten their belts any longer but enjoy the benefits of socialism. However, they came across a big obstacle.

The US and its followers cooked up a sanctions resolution in the UN Security Council following the DPRK's successful launch of a peaceful satellite in December 2012 in an outrageous and hostile attempt to illegalize the legitimate right of a sovereign state to launch a satellite.

To cope with the situation, the DPRK could not but conduct the third underground nuclear test as part of the self-defensive and substantial countermeasures to protect the country's sovereignty and security.

The US and other hostile forces again adopted a harsher "sanctions resolution" as part of anti-DPRK frenzy while launching large-scale Key Resolve and Foal Eagle joint military exercises aimed at unleashing a nuclear war against the DPRK.

Rallying around supreme leader Kim Jong Un, the Korean army and people were out for an across-the-board showdown against the US to counter a war of invasion with a righteous war of reunification.

On edge over the DPRK's tougher countermeasures, the enemies dared not lash out, but they did not give up the ambition to stifle the former.

The Korean army and people still remembered the lessons of the countries in the Balkan Peninsula and the Middle East which failed to build strong self-defensive capabilities, looking to big countries, and gave up even their existing war deterrents under the pressure and appeasement of the imperialists, ending up falling victim to aggression.

The US threateningly claimed that the DPRK could not achieve economic development unless it gave up its nukes, while sweet-talking that it would help the DPRK to get well-off if the latter takes a different road. But the DPRK decided to

hold fast to the treasured sword of nuclear arms and open the door to prosperity.

Addressing the plenary meeting, Kim Jong Un said that the strategic line of simultaneously pushing economic construction and nuclear arms buildup was a righteous line that helps boost the war deterrent and step up economic construction so as to carry out the cause of building a thriving socialist country. He referred to the fact that for nearly 70 years after the appearance of nuclear weapons, no nuclear states have sustained a military invasion despite the long-standing Cold War and lots of big and small shooting wars across the world.

Noting that the US and its followers were now trying to drag the DPRK into arms race in a bid to throw a hurdle in the way of the latter's efforts to build an economically developed nation and improve the people's living standards, he said that the new line would enable the country to further strengthen the defence capabilities at small expense without increasing military expenditure and direct great efforts to economic buildup and improvement of people's livelihood.

This strategic line, he said, is a succession and development of the line of simultaneously carrying on economic construction and defence upbuilding, which was set forth by President Kim Il Sung and applied on by Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Kim Il Sung advanced a line of simultaneously pushing economic construction and defence buildup for the first time at the Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Fourth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea in December 1962, and set forth the revolutionary slogan "Rifle in one hand and hammer or sickle in the other!"

As he advanced the line and consolidated both the self-supporting national economy and the self-reliant national defence capabilities, the DPRK was able to firmly safeguard the gains of the revolution unperturbed even in the face of the upheavals that saw a chain of collapse of socialism in different countries.

While leading the fierce anti-US nuclear showdown along the road of victory by dint of his distinguished Songun politics, Chairman Kim Jong Il

achieved the great cause of becoming a nuclear state, defending Juche-based socialism and providing a springboard for building a thriving country.

The supreme leader said that the exploits of the Generalissimos who put the country on the map as a nuclear state would go down in the history of the nation.

He specified tasks and ways to implement the Party's simultaneous-push policy.

The plenary meeting approved a decision on the first agenda item "On winning the final victory earlier in the cause of building a thriving socialist nation by carrying out the economic construction and the nuclear arms buildup simultaneously".

The new simultaneous-push policy is a great guideline that enables Songun Korea to maintain and add glory to its independent dignity forever and bring about a greater leap forward and innovation in the efforts to build an economically developed nation.

The plenary meeting was a historic event that significantly inspired the Korean army and people to move forward along the road of independence, Songun and socialism under the leadership of Kim Jong Un and marked a landmark in stepping up the building of a thriving nation and bringing earlier national reunification.

US proposes dialogue

In November 2011 US President Obama hosted an APEC summit in Hawaii and unveiled the US' Asia-Pacific strategy.

The gist of the strategy is that given the future of the world in the 21st century will be determined in the Asia-Pacific region, not in Europe or the Middle East, the US will strategically pivot to the region with its efforts focusing on securing its supremacy in the region.

In line with the "pivot-to-Asia-Pacific" strategy, the US worked out detailed strategies and plans and set out to implement them in earnest.

As part of the efforts, the US published a new defence strategy which specifies the reduction of US forces from Europe and the Middle East and

the relocation of them to the Asia-Pacific region.

In the last century the US and Europe led the global economic development, but in the current century the Asia-Pacific region is instrumental in stimulating the world economy.

China rapidly emerged as the world number two economy and Russia began to regain its status as a big power.

The strategic importance of the Korean peninsula bordering China and Russia saw a boost.

The US left no stone unturned to stifle the DPRK which was advancing upholding the banner of socialism.

The intensity of the scramble of powers for the Korean peninsula got by far higher than that over a century ago when Korea was under Japan's jackboot.

The DPRK defied the US, which was trying to re-map the world, with nukes.

As the DPRK countered its military threats with a tougher stance, the US attempted to draw the former into arms race by relentlessly staging large-scale joint military exercises.

Under the circumstances, supreme leader Kim Jong Un put forward the strategic line of pushing economic construction and nuclear arms buildup in parallel.

The DPRK Supreme People's Assembly adopted and put into effect the ordinance "On Consolidating the Status of the Self-defensive Nuclear Weapons State".

The DPRK Nuclear Energy Administration announced that the purpose of the existing nuclear facilities would be adjusted in line with the simultaneous-push policy. Among the measures to be taken were those to rearrange and restart all the nuclear facilities including the uranium enrichment plant and the graphite-moderated reactor.

Action was immediately taken.

The simultaneous-push policy enables the DPRK to build up defence capability with less cost and no more defence spending and channel big efforts

into developing the economy and improving the people's living standards.

A nuclear missile is as powerful as 50 000 conventional missiles.

Nuclear arms buildup helps improve the people's livelihood with increased electricity output.

The Korean People's Army, equipped with minimized, lightened, diversified and precise nuclear weapons, remains unchanged in its posture against the US.

Its ICBMs target military bases and strongholds of the US and fingers of its service members are on the button of fire.

The KPA army, navy, air and anti-aircraft force, which entered the full-scale showdown with the US, intensified military drills waiting for an order of Supreme Commander Kim Jong Un.

A south Korean publication quoted the chief of the institute of unification studies as saying:

“In case of a full-scale war against the north, the US fears that its military bases in south Korea and Japan would sustain a crushing blow. It is even afraid that the bases in the Pacific and the mainland would be under attack.

“The gap of firepower between both sides in the theatre of operation that covers the five islands in the West Sea is up to 16 times.

“South Korean navy vessels in the West Sea are only patrolling far from the theatre in fear of the ground-to-ship missiles and the agile and swift armada of submarines of the People's Army. So are the aircraft of its Air Force, which are flying far from the range of the ground-to-air missiles of the anti-aircraft force of the People's Army.”

With the eyes of the world on the DPRK-US showdown moving closer to the brink of war, embattled US President Obama expressed a willingness on April 11 2013 to seek a diplomatic solution to the crisis through dialogue and negotiations, saying he did not want a war to break out on the Korean peninsula.

Russia's RIA Novosti carried a commentary entitled “DPRK celebrates victory” written by its US correspondent.

Saying that the DPRK triumphed in the confrontation with the US and south Korea, it said: “The US and its allies tried to frighten the DPRK with huge military exercises, but finally they proposed dialogue first. They did not guess the DPRK would okay a nuclear war. The US offered dialogue although the DPRK made no concession.”

The mistress of the Blue House accustomed to kowtowing to the master got the minister of unification to release a statement and she herself revealed the “authorities’ proposal for dialogue geared to breaking the deadlock”, in a turn-around from the previous stance steeped in confrontation, with which she claimed that there was no dialogue nor dispatch of a special envoy for now.

The advertisement of dialogue by the master and stooge almost at the same time was a political decision which came from a conclusion that neither military threats nor sanctions will have any effect on the DPRK.

3. Eternal July 27

Victory in the great Fatherland Liberation War!

It was the outcome of the outstanding leadership of **Kim Il Sung**, ever-victorious and iron-willed commander who aroused the independent people and led the war to victory.

In July 2013 the diamond jubilee of the victorious war was celebrated in the DPRK on the largest scale to hand down to posterity the undying exploits of the President who is lauded by the world as “peerless hero”, “greatest commander” and “symbol of victory in the anti-imperialist struggle”.

Kim Jong Un, who had proposed building the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum, the Fatherland Liberation War Martyrs Cemetery and other structures, visited the construction sites and specified the orientation

and ways to complete them on the highest level.

A variety of war victory celebrations took place in Pyongyang and local areas in July 2013.

On July 10 the Presidium of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly announced the decree on conferring the 60th Anniversary of the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Order on Generalissimos Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il.

Kim Il Sung was a peerless legendary hero who led the war to victory, thereby defending the freedom and independence of the country.

Kim Jong Il was the Songun commander of Mt. Paektu and peerless patriot who foiled the attempts of imperialist reactionaries to isolate and stifle the DPRK on the strength of Songun for over half a century, making the history and tradition of victory in war shine century after century.

The conferment of the order on them to mark the diamond jubilee of the victorious war was the unanimous will and desire of all the service personnel and people of the country as they had safeguarded its dignity and sovereignty.

On the same occasion the magnificent war martyrs cemetery was built in Pyongyang.

The construction of the cemetery has made it possible to add lustre to the heroic feats of the KPA soldiers, who had bravely fought the life-and-death battle with the enemy for the country, along with the great golden age of socialist Korea and implant their indomitable revolutionary spirit and the spirit of defending the country more deeply in the minds of KPA officers and men and people.

On July 26 there was a national meeting in Pyongyang's May Day Stadium.

The venue of the meeting was infused with the firm conviction and will of the participants to demonstrate the immortal war victory exploits and Songun revolutionary achievements of the great men of Mt. Paektu to the world and win the final victory in the anti-US showdown, single-mindedly

united around supreme leader Kim Jong Un.

On July 27, the Day of Victory for the Korean people, a military parade and Pyongyang mass demonstration took place with splendour at Kim Il Sung Square.

Supreme Commander Kim Jong Un came to the square and inspected the guards of honour of the KPA Army, Navy and Air and Anti-aircraft Force and the Worker-Peasant Red Guards.

The military parade and mass demonstration showed off the revolutionary spirit and invincible might of the Korean service members and people to add eternal brilliance to the undying exploits of the great leaders and make a dynamic advance towards the final victory in the building of a thriving country.

That day, the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum was inaugurated on the picturesque banks of the Pothong River.

The magnificent and imposing museum covering a vast area is a showcase of the war victory exploits and Songun revolutionary achievements of the great leaders and the heroic fighting spirit and feats of the Korean army and people. At the front there is statue “Victory” whose pedestal is inscribed with Kim Jong Un’s autograph “Honour to the great years”.

The war victory anniversary celebrations were a grand political festival of the Korean people who have made a history of victorious war century after century to the admiration of the world people and an important occasion which showed that victory belongs to Korea forever.

The Koreans’ confidence in victory is their firm faith that they can destroy any formidable enemy as they are led by an iron-willed commander.

The Korean service personnel and people are now filled with the determination to settle accounts with the US and achieve the final victory in the building of a thriving socialist nation under the leadership of Marshal Kim Jong Un in the spirit of defending the country they displayed in the anti-US face-off under the leadership of the great leaders.

DPRK-US SHOWDOWN

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Published by the Foreign Languages

Publishing House, DPRK

Issued in May Juche 103(2014)

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<http://www.naenara.com.kp>

Pyongyang, Korea
Juche 103(2014)

ISBN 978-9946-0-1131-8



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