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## Pyongyang Counters U.S. Arrogance with Ambiguity on Nuke Plan; Suggests Non-Aggression Pact Option

Pyongyang has given a great shock to Washington by allegedly "admitting" its clandestine plan on uranium enrichment at the time of the recent bilateral talks. Washington has escalated its diatribe against Pyongyang by stressing that it is a "breach of the 1994 Agreed Framework," trying to whitewash the Bush administration's labeling North Korea as a member of an "axis of evil." Worth paying attention here, however, is the fact that it took as long as twelve days for the Bush administration to make it public. More important, it has failed to disclose exactly what happened during the October 3-5 talks between U.S. State assistant secretary James Kelly and his DPRK counterpart, first vice foreign minister Kang Sok Ju. Bush's team has ever since been intent on driving North Korea into a tight corner to "disarm" it by mobilizing all of its propaganda machine and extensive diplomatic channels.

Then came an answer from Pyongyang. In an October 25 statement, a spokesman for the DPRK Foreign Ministry revealed what had happened three weeks before.

First, the statement says that James Kelly failed to introduce any "evidence," as he claimed he did during the Pyongyang talks, to prove that North Korea has been actively engaged in a uranium enrichment

program in pursuit of possessing nuclear weapons in violation of the 1994 Agreed Framework(AF).

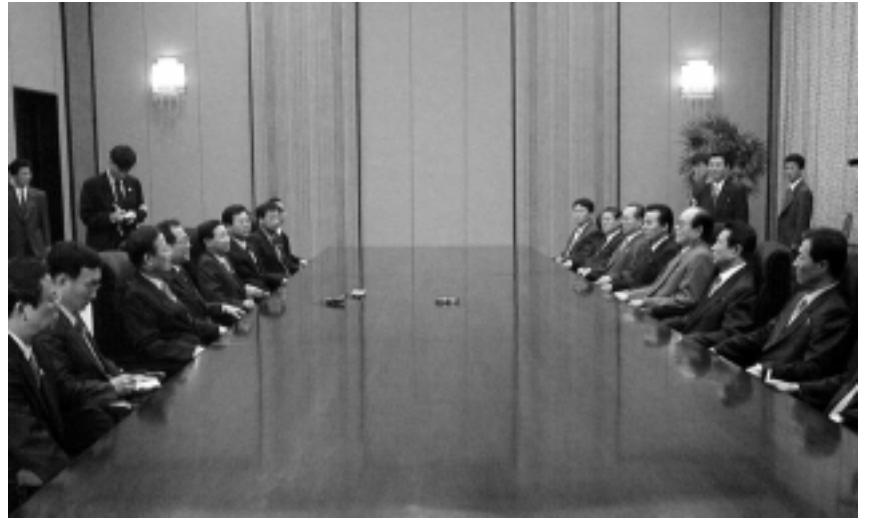
Second, it stresses that it is the U.S., not North Korea, that has failed to implement the AF, by raising its specific articles. The failures on the part of Washington to keep its promises include: 1) the long-delayed construction of two light water reactors(LWRs) for Pyongyang by 2003 in return for its freezing the construction of graphite-moderated reactors and their related facilities; 2) the U.S.'s undisguised threat to make a preemptive nuclear attack on the DPRK--also a breach of the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons Treaty(NPT); 3) the U.S.'s unilateral demand for nuclear inspection "before" the delivery of essential non-nuclear components for the first LWR unit--which is to be conducted "after" it under the AF.

Third, it says that Pyongyang made public the "confidential minutes" for the first time to rebuff Kelly's unilateral and high-handed argument as regards the North's nuclear program. What the "confidential minutes" mean is unclear, however.

Fourth, it refers to the essential part of the last talks by saying: "The DPRK made

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## North, South Hold Senior-Level Talks on Rail Links, Industrial Zone and Nuke Issue



The North Korean negotiating team (right) and the South Korean delegation hold their 8th inter-Korean ministerial talks in Pyongyang between October 20 and 22.

Pyongyang and Seoul held the 8th inter-Korean ministerial talks in Pyongyang and agreed to actively pursue dialogue to resolve the nuclear issue and other pending problems, start work on an industrial park in the north and to continue work to reconnect roads and railways.

A joint statement followed three days of intensive discussions from October 20 to 22 in Pyongyang.

In the eight-point joint press release, the north and the south agreed to make joint efforts to ensure the peace and security of the Korean Peninsula and cooperate to seek settlement of the nuclear issue through negotiation.

Both sides also decided to promote ministerial talks to push forward the construction of the eastern and western coastal railways and roads. As for this issue, the statement said that the north and the south would link the eastern coastal railway and road to the area of Mt. Kumgang and the western coastal railway and road to a Kaesong industrial zone in the first phase. The south side shall ceaselessly and rapidly push forward the project for linking the south side's section of the railroad leading to Kangrung.

Pyongyang and Seoul also agreed to discuss the construction of the Kaesong industrial zone including groundbreaking work in the related subcommittee within December.

Veterans and young players made good showing in their own fields with their high technique and strong mettle. North Korea placed eighth in the medal-winning ranking.

Fourteen athletes of Korean residents in Japan also participated in the biggest sports competition in Asia, joining in the North Korean delegation.

North Korean women athletes surprised the world when they gained most of North Korea's total medals and made good showing in various events, such as football, table tennis, shooting and marathon.

The first gold medal was brought to North Korea by Ri Song Hui in the 53kg category of women's weightlifting competition, managing a total lift of 225 kg, while she broke a world record for the snatch with a lift of 102.5.

Han Jong Ok made her brilliant debut in international games, winning gold medal in the women's uneven bars event, while Kim Hyon Il made a successful performance

The north and the south decided to have a working contact, at a Mt. Kumgang resort within November, to adopt a marine transport agreement concerning the passage of both sides' civilian ships and their safe sailing in each side's territorial waters.

In addition, north and south Korea reached an agreement to discuss the adoption of an agreement on the transit of persons and freight transport of each side regarding the reconnection of the inter-Korean railways and roads.

To allow fishermen of South Korea to use part of the fishing grounds in North Korea's territorial waters, the two sides agreed to have a dialogue at a Mt. Kumgang resort at an early date.

Concerning the issue of the reunions of separated families, the joint statement said that both sides agreed to build the Kumgangsan House as a meeting house for the families, at an early date and help the Red Cross organizations confirm the whereabouts of those missing during the Korean War.

The 9th inter-Korean ministerial talks will be held in Seoul in mid-January 2003, the statement added.

The North Korean negotiation team was led by senior councilor Kim Ryong Song of the DPRK Cabinet.

The south side delegation was headed by Minister of Unification Jong Se Hyon.

with high technique in the men's pommel horse event to win a gold medal.

The North Korean women's football squad as an Asian champion defended its title sweeping its powerful Asian opponents, Japan and China.

DPRK paddlers gained a surprise victory in the women's team event, defeating the world strongest Chinese team in the final.

Hong Ok Song won a gold medal in the 57 kg division of women's judo, while Atlanta Olympics Champion Kye Sun Hui came third in the 52kg category. North Korean judoists won a total of 4 medals.

Meanwhile, in a historic highlight that stressed national unity and reconciliation, North and South Korea created an atmosphere of reunification in South Korea's southern port city Pusan. Joint cheering by and hearty exchanges between North and South Korean citizens and athletes put enthusiasm into the Asian Games.

## North Korean Athletes Make Successful Results in Pusan Asiad

*Asian Games Gave Opportunity for Inter-Korean Reconciliation and Unity*



DPRK paddlers Kim Hyon Hui, Kim Hyang Mi, Kim Yun Mi, Kim Mi Yong and Ryom Won Ok won the first prize in the women's table-tennis team event. The DPRK paddlers defeated Mongolia, Uzbekistan, Chinese Taipei and south Korea. Edging the Japanese team 3-2 in the semi-finals, the north Korean table tennis team beat the world strongest Chinese team 3-1 in the final.

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A colorful closing ceremony put an end to the 16-day Pan-Asian sports event held in Pusan from September 29 to October 14, showing an enthusiastic reconciliation mood and unity of North and South Korean athletes and people to the world.

In the 14th Asian Games Pusan on which the curtain fell with an emotional joint en-

trance march of North and South Korean athletes on September 29, North Korean athletes gained a total of 33 medals- 9 golds, 11 silvers and 13 bronzes.

A DPRK sports delegation consisting of 330 athletes and officials with a 291-member cheering group for the first time participated in an international sports event held in South Korea since the division of the Korean Peninsula.

# 14th Asian Games Pusan

## Ham Bong Sil Wins Crown of Laurel in Women's Marathon

Ham Bong Sil won a gold medal in women's marathon competition participated in by 11 runners from eight countries and regions of Asia. Ham won the race in 2 hours, 26 minutes and 23 seconds.

She won the 5,000 and 10,000 meters at the Asian championships in Colombo, Sri Lanka in last August.

Ham tucked in behind Japanese runners Ominami Hitomi and Hiroshima Harumi during the first half of the race. After passing 24 kilometers, Ominami broke away and Ham went with her, staying close on her heels for eight kilometers. While they were running together, he didn't share the burden of leading.

At the 32-kilometer mark, Ham at last caught up with Ominami. One kilometer down the road, Ham surged and Ominami didn't respond. Ham quickly opened up a 50-meter lead on Ominami, and she was never challenged during the rest of the race.

When she ran into the main stadium, a large crowd of North Korean cheerleaders dressed in white sweat suits and South Korean spectators stood up and erupted in



cheers.

"I am very happy to bring back the gold medal to great leader Kim Jong Il and our country and to return our people's hope with the gold medal," Ham said.

## Ri Song Hui Breaks World Record

North Korean weightlifter Ri Song Hui won a gold medal in the 53kg category of the women's weightlifting event, breaking a world record. Ri lifted a world record-breaking 225.0kg in the women's 53-kg division.

She broke the world record for the snatch with a lift of 102.5 and added 122.5 in the clean and jerk.

A large crowd of North and South Korean fans erupted in applause and began chanting Ri's name.



The 23-year-old Ri won silver medals in the last Asian Games in Bangkok, Thailand in 1998 and the 2000 Sydney Olympics.

### List of Medal Winners in Asian Games

#### Gold

Women's Football  
 Women's Trap Shooting Team  
 Women's Table Tennis Team  
 Ham Bong Sil (Women's Marathon)  
 Kim Hyon Il (Gymnastics - Men's Apparatus Finals Pommel Horse)  
 Han Jong Ok (Gymnastics - Women's Apparatus Finals Uneven Bars)  
 Hong Ok Song (Judo - Women's 57kg)  
 Kim Jong Su (Shooting - Men's 25m Center Fire Pistol)  
 Ri Song Hui (Weightlifting - Women's 57kg)

#### Silver

Women's Gymnastics Team  
 10m Air Pistol Men's Team  
 25m Center Fire Pistol Men's Team  
 Jo Jong Chol (Gymnastics - Men's Apparatus Finals Floor Exercises)  
 Ji Kyong Sun (Judo - Women's 63kg)  
 Ri Jong Nam (Diving - Men's 10m Synchronized)  
 Kim Kyong Ju (Diving - Women's 10m Synchronized)  
 Kim Jong Su (Shooting - Men's 10m Air Pistol)  
 Pak Yong Hui (Shooting - Trap Women)  
 Im Yong Su (Weightlifting - Men's 62kg)  
 Kang Yong Gyun (Wrestling - Greco Roman Style 55kg)

#### Bronze

Shooting - 50m Pistol Men's Team  
 Shooting - Rapid Fire Pistol Men's Team  
 Shooting - 25m Standard Pistol Men's Team  
 So Jong Ok (Gymnastics - Women's Apparatus Finals Uneven Bars)  
 Pyon Kwang Sun (Gymnastics - Women's Apparatus Finals Balance Beam)  
 Ri Kyong Ok (Judo - Women's 48kg)  
 Kye Sun Hui (Judo - Women's 52kg)  
 Kim Mi Sun, Ri Ryong Hwa (Rowing Women's Double Sculls)  
 Jo Chol Ryong (Diving - Men's Platform)  
 Kim Kyong Ju (Diving - Women's Platform)  
 Kim Jong Su (Shooting - Men's 50m Pistol)  
 Ri Hye Gyong (Shooting - Trap Women)  
 Kim Yun Mo (Wrestling - Greco Roman Style 66kg)

## Women's Football Team Wins Title of Asian Champion



North Korea unseated defending champion China to take the gold medal of the women's football competition in the Asian Games, after a 4-0 drubbing of Vietnam in the final round of the round robin matches.

The North Korean team went undefeated in the six-team competition winning all their matches except a 0-0 tie with China. Scoring a total of 13 winning points, the North Korean women's football squad became the winner of double crowns in the Asian women's football.

North Korea edged Japan, the runner-up of the last Asian championships, by 1-0. The team also beat Chinese Taipei 1-0 while defeating South Korea 2-0.

In the final game, North Korea opened its score in the 16th minutes when Jin Pyol Hui got the team's first goal in the final match. Jin later converted from the penalty spot to give North Korea a 2-0 half time lead. North Korea controlled the ball and the attack throughout the half. In the second half, Ri Kum Suk powered in a goal in the 64th minutes. Ten minutes later Yun Yong Hui scored the team's fourth goal by

a clear header followed by a nice cross from the byline by Ri.

"Our success in the tournament was the result of our effort to strengthen our stamina and defense," Ri Song Gun, chief coach of the North Korean team said. "We have some important matches coming up so what we need to do is to continue to improve and raise our technical ability and tactical understanding," he added.

"We will share the victory with our people and my dear family," Yang Gyong Hui said. "We are determined to win the 4th women's World Cup to be held next year," she added.

Proving it to be the toughest team in the tournament, the North Korean women's football team emerged as a major threat in the next year's Asian Football Championships and women's World Cup.

The Asian Football Championships for women are scheduled for March 2003, while the women's World Cup will be held in Shanghai, China in September. North Korea won the Asian tournament held in Taiwan in 2001.

## North Korean Shooting Star Walks Away with 7 Medals

Kim Jong Su won a total of 7 medals in shooting events.

Kim Jong Su won the gold in the Men's 25m Center Fire Pistol event, while winning three silver medals in the individual and team competitions of the 10m Air Pistol and the team competition of the 25m Center Fire Pistol.

He also won three bronze medals in the individual and the team competition of the 50m free pistol event and the team competition of the Men's 25m Standard Pistol event.



## "One Korea" Enthusiasm Highlights Pusan Asiad



North Korea's beautiful cheerleaders attracted South Koreans during the period of the Asian Games. *(the left side photo)*

Joint cheering by North and South Korean cheering groups was seen in every stadium and hall. South Korean citizens organized "Arirang cheering group" to encourage North Korean athletes. *(the right side photo)*

The North Korean brass band played the all-too-familiar North Korean Songs, "Glad to Meet You," "We Are One," and "Arirang" in stadiums and streets in Pusan.



## DPRK Suggests Conclusion of Non-Aggression Treaty with U.S.

*Statement of DPRK Foreign Ministry Spokesman*

A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on October 25 released a statement as regards the nuclear issue on the Korean Peninsula.

New dramatic changes have taken place in the situation on the Korean Peninsula and the rest of Northeast Asia in the new century.

Inter-Korean relations and the DPRK's relations with Russia, China and Japan have entered a new important phase and bold measures have been taken to reconnect inter-Korean railroads which have remained cut for over half a century, settle the past with Japan and do away with the leftovers of the last century.

The DPRK has taken a series of new steps in economic management and adopted one measure after another to re-energize the economy, including the establishment of a special economic region, in conformity with the changed situation and specific conditions of the country.

These developments practically contribute to peace in Asia and the rest of the world.

Almost all the countries except for the United States, therefore, welcomed and hailed them, a great encouragement to the DPRK.

It was against this backdrop that the DPRK recently received a special envoy of the U.S. president in the hope that this might help fundamentally solve the hostile relations with the U.S. and settle outstanding issues on an equal footing.

Regretfully, the Pyongyang visit of the special envoy convinced the DPRK that the hostile attempt of the Bush administration to stifle the DPRK by force and backpedal the positive development of the situation in the Korean Peninsula and the rest of Northeast Asia has gone to the extremes.

Producing no evidence, he asserted that the DPRK has been actively engaged in a uranium enrichment program in pursuit of possessing nuclear weapons in violation of the DPRK-U.S. Agreed Framework. He even intimidated the DPRK side by saying that there would be no dialogue with the U.S. unless the DPRK halts it, and the DPRK-Japan, and north-south relations would be jeopardized.

The U.S. attitude was so unilateral and high-handed that the DPRK was stunned by it.

The U.S. is seriously mistaken if it thinks such a brigandish attitude reminding one of a thief crying "stop the thief" would work on the DPRK.

As far as the nuclear issue on the Korean Peninsula is concerned, it cropped up as the U.S. has massively stockpiled nuclear weapons in South Korea and its vicinity and threatened the DPRK, a small country, with those weapons for nearly half a century, pursuing a hostile policy toward it in accordance with the strategy for world supremacy.

The DPRK-U.S. Agreed Framework was adopted in October 1994, but the U.S. has been deprived of the right to talk about the implementation of the framework since then.

Under Article 1 of the framework the U.S. is obliged to provide light water reactors to the DPRK by the year 2003 in return for the DPRK's freezing the construction of graphite moderated reactors and their related facilities.

But only site preparation for the LWR was made though 8 years have passed since the DPRK froze its nuclear facilities.

This will bring the DPRK an annual loss of 1,000 MW (E) in 2003 when light water reactor No.1 is scheduled to be completed and that of 2,000 MW (E) from the next year under Article 2 of the framework the two sides are obliged to move toward

full normalization of the political and economic relations. Over the last 8 years, however, the U.S. has persistently pursued the hostile policy toward the DPRK and maintained economic sanctions on it. The former has gone the length of listing the latter as part of an "axis of evil."

Under Article 3 of the framework the U.S. is obliged to give formal assurances to the DPRK against the threat or use of nuclear weapons by the U.S. However, the U.S. listed the DPRK as a target of its preemptive nuclear attack.

Under Article 4 of the framework and paragraph g of its confidential minutes the DPRK is to allow nuclear inspections only after the "delivery of essential non-nuclear components for the first LWR unit, including turbines and generators" is completed. But, the U.S. has already come out with a unilateral demand for nuclear inspection in a bid to convince the international community of the DPRK's violation of the framework.

This compelled the DPRK to make public the confidential minutes for the first time.

The U.S. has, in the final analysis, observed none of the four articles of the framework.

It is only the U.S. that can know whether it had willingness to implement the framework when it was adopted or put a signature to it without sincerity, calculating that the DPRK would collapse sooner or later.

However, the Bush administration listed the DPRK as part of an "axis of evil" and a target of the U.S. preemptive nuclear strikes. This was a clear declaration of a war against the DPRK as it totally nullified the DPRK-U.S. joint statement and agreed framework.

In the long run, the Bush administration has adopted it as its policy to make a preemptive nuclear strike at the DPRK. Such moves, a gross violation of the basic spirit of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, reduced the inter-Korean Joint Declaration on Denuclearization to a dead document.

Its reckless political, economic and military pressure is most seriously threatening the DPRK's right to existence, creating a grave situation on the Korean Peninsula.

Nobody would be so naive as to think that the DPRK would sit idle under such situation.

That was why the DPRK made it very

clear to the special envoy of the U.S. president that the DPRK was entitled to possess not only nuclear weapon but any type of weapon more powerful than that so as to defend its sovereignty and right to existence from the ever-growing nuclear threat by the U.S.

The DPRK, which values sovereignty more than life, was left with no other proper answer to the U.S. behaving so arrogantly and impertinently.

The DPRK has neither need nor duty to explain something to the U.S. seeking to attack it if it refuses to disarm itself.

Nevertheless, the DPRK, with greatest magnanimity, clarified that it was ready to seek a negotiated settlement of this issue on the following three conditions: firstly, if the U.S. recognizes the DPRK's sovereignty, secondly, if it assures the DPRK of nonaggression and thirdly, if the U.S. does not hinder the economic development of the DPRK.

Nowadays, the U.S. and its followers assert that negotiations should be held after the DPRK puts down its arms. This is a very abnormal logic.

Then, how can the DPRK counter any attack with empty hands?

Their assertion is little short of demanding the DPRK yield to pressure, which means death.

Nobody can match anyone ready to die. This is the faith and will of the army and people of the DPRK determined to remain true to the army-based policy to the last.

The position of the DPRK is invariable. The DPRK considers that it is a reasonable and realistic solution to the nuclear issue to conclude a nonaggression treaty between the DPRK and the U.S. if the grave situation of the Korean Peninsula is to be bridged over.

If the U.S. legally assures the DPRK of nonaggression, including the nonuse of nuclear weapons against it by concluding such a treaty, the DPRK will be ready to clear the former of its security concerns.

The settlement of all problems with the DPRK, a small country, should be based on removing any threat to its sovereignty and right to existence.

There may be negotiations or the use of deterrent force to be consistent with this basis, but the DPRK wants the former, as far as possible.

## Women and Students Hold Inter-Korean Civic Rallies



Photo shows a recreational games by women and children

Korean women in the north, the south and overseas gathered at the foot of Mt. Kungang to hold a joint event on October 16 and 17, while the youth at home and abroad held a joint solidarity meeting on October 13 and 14.

These were the first-ever large-scale meetings of Korean women of the north, south and abroad, and of youth and students at home and abroad.

Participants enjoyed the meetings and pledged to promote reconciliation and cooperation among Koreans in the north, the south and overseas.

### Women Determined to Strengthen Unity

An inter-Korean women's gathering, named "the rally of women from the north and the south for the implementation of the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration and for peace" was held at a Mt. Kungang resort on October 16 and 17, participated in by more than 700 women.

Chairwoman Ro Song Sil of the Pyongyang Committee of the Korea Women's Union said that the latest joint meeting showed off proudly the warm pa-

triotism of Korean women to achieve the reunification of divided Korea.

Ri Kyong Suk, permanent representative of the Union of Women's Organizations of South Korea, said that Korean women should raise the power of peace and achieve national reunification.

A seminar of women for the implementation of the June 15 joint declaration and peace took place after the opening ceremony.

Speakers at the seminar called upon all Korean women at home and abroad to unite as one and advance together under the banner of the joint declaration, transcending the differences in political views, religious beliefs and ideas.

Participants enjoyed various events, such as an art exhibition, a handicrafts exhibition, recreational games, and joint hiking, while both sides arranged panel meetings as political issues, reunification movements, women's organizations, health care, educational, literary and art, religionist

and economic issues. Both sides' artists held a joint concert.

Winding up the two-day meeting, a joint resolution was adopted at the closing ceremony.

The resolution said that the women's organizations in the north, the south and abroad should make every effort to prevent a new war on the Korean Peninsula and achieve peace and security and positively promote the solidarity and unity of Korean women.

### Young Koreans Unite as One in Inter-Korean Youth Rally

A unified rally of youth and students from the north, south and abroad for the implementation of the June 15 North-South Joint Declaration and for the future of the nation was held at the foot of Mt. Kungang

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North and South Korean young people meet and deepen their friendships.

## A New Page in the History of DPRK-Japan Relations: Historical Significance of Pyongyang Summit

by Prof. Han Gye Ok

*The following is the gist of a key-note report made by Han Gye Ok, guest professor at Osaka Economics and Law University, at an ad hoc symposium, held recently in Tokyo, on the historical significance of the September 17 summit meeting between DPRK leader Kim Jong Il and Japan's Prime Minister Koizumi:*

Prime Minister Koizumi Junichiro of Japan visited Pyongyang and had talks with Chairman Kim Jong Il of the DPRK National Defense Commission, which resulted in the publication of a historic Pyongyang Declaration. In its preamble, the joint statement says that the two top leaders shared the views that liquidating the unpleasant past between the DPRK and Japan, settling the pending issues and establishing fruitful political, economic and cultural relations between them are in the basic interests of both sides and greatly conducive to regional peace and stability. It aroused a great response from people of all over the world, let alone the Korean people, in that it would not only make a breakthrough in the long-stalled Korean-Japanese relations but also contribute to bringing a radical change to Pyongyang's relations with the rest of the world.

### Shocking news

Everyone was shocked to hear the Pyongyang-released information about the whereabouts of Japanese citizens abducted by North Korean special units around two decades before. Pyongyang frankly recognized the facts and sincerely apologized to Japan for the unpleasant incidents, and assured Tokyo that Pyongyang would take proper measures to prevent them from recurring in the days to come. I think that the truth about the abduction issues should be fully revealed and repatriation of those Japanese victims be achieved as a matter of course.

Pyongyang has not only clarified its po-

sition that it would do its utmost to relieve the sufferings of the victims and their families but showed its sincerity by fully cooperating with Tokyo in its investigation activities. As a result, five abductees are now visiting their home country, Japan.

In the meantime, as agreed at the Pyongyang summit talks, ambassador-level bilateral governmental talks are to be resumed in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from October 29.

More than one month has elapsed since the summit. However, Japan's media and public are still intent on, and heated by, the abduction issue only, instead of duly appreciating the historical implications and significance of the Pyongyang declaration. It is amid this upsurge of anti-North Korean emotionalism in Japan that acts of violence and racial harassment against Korean school children and ethnic pro-Pyongyang organizations have been occurring almost every day throughout Japan. The present situation like this has made it too dangerous for the Korean girls attending independent ethnic schools in Japan to wear their national costumes--"chima" and "jogori."

### Historical Absurdity

This is totally unbearable for the Korean community in Japan. It pains us to think of the Japanese abductees on the one hand. But, on the other, the absurd, unreasonable and undisguised animosity Japan has directed against Koreans in Japan since the summit in Pyongyang automatically reminds them of what Japan had done to Korea and its people over the century.

Setting aside the repeated attacks on and looting of Korea by Japanese pirates, called "Wako," and the devastating aggression by Toyotomi Hideyoshi toward the end of the sixteenth century, at least Japan's history of the twentieth century should be remembered. During the Japanese colonial rule of Korea, which started early in the last century, it, while pursuing a policy of obliterating the Korean nation, looted and plundered in Korea, forcibly conscripted and drafted Koreans for its aggressive wars,

enslaved Korean women to serve Japanese soldiers as "comfort women" and displaced Koreans to Japan for forced labor, the number of those victims totalling millions. Hundreds of thousands of them were victimized either on the war fronts or in the rear.

In the wake of the March 1, 1919 Popular Uprising in Korea and in the anti-Japanese guerrilla warfare, hundreds of thousands Koreans were killed and injured. More than six thousands of innocent Korean residents in Japan were mercilessly massacred at the time of the 1923 Great Kanto Earthquake by the Japanese Army, police and civilian "vigilante corps."

Korea eventually became independent as Japan was defeated in the Pacific War only to be partitioned into halves. This was originally attributable to the fact that Japan had used the Korean Peninsula as its rear base during the war. Even after the war, Japan's hostility towards North Korea continued. During the Korean War, former Imperial Army men joined the U.S. troops in their landing operations in North Korea, and Japanese-made bombs were dropped all over the North's territory. The Korean War provided Japan with a "special procurement" boom that worked as a driving force in the post-war recovery of Japan.

In 1965, Japan normalized its relations only with South Korea, the one half of the divided nation, by concluding a basic treaty, recognizing it as the "only legitimate government in the Korean Peninsula." On the other hand, Japan has remained hostile towards the other half, North Korea, thereby contributing to freezing the division of Korea. Thus, up to this date, North Korea or the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has remained the only country in the world with which Japan has no diplomatic ties--a "close yet far country."

Moreover, Japan has constantly employed a policy of racial humiliation, discrimination and assimilation towards Korean residents in Japan, who were forcibly taken or migrated to this country against their will during the Japanese colonial days, or their offspring. It is due to this hostile

policy followed by the successive governments of Tokyo that Korean national schools which had been independently run by the Korean community after the war were ordered closed on the eve of the Korea War, and that, Koreans in Japan, Korean school children in particular, have been the targets of violence and racial harassment each time the situation surrounding the Korean Peninsula aggravated.

### Amity and cooperation

The latest Pyongyang summit and joint declaration represent the firm will of the two leaders to liquidate such long-continued hostility and abnormal relations between the two neighbors and establish diplomatic ties based on mutual trust, friendship and cooperation.

Chairman Kim Jong Il told Prime Minister Koizumi as follows: "North Korea and Japan have so far remained 'close yet far countries' to each other. However, I wish that this summit meeting will be the opportunity to make the relations between our two countries close and intimate in the true meaning of the words so that the words 'close yet far countries' may be history."

Meanwhile, at a press conference held in Pyongyang after the historic summit, Prime Minister Koizumi said: "It is important for both of us to implement with sincerity the commitments we pledged in the joint declaration. If and when the principles and spirit agreed upon in the Pyongyang Japan-DPRK declaration are to be carried out to the letter, our relations will make a significant step forward toward mutual cooperation instead of hostility."

I believe that these statements by the two top leaders also reflect the common desire of the peoples of both nations to build new relations of amity. This is illustrated in a recent public survey in which 58 percent of the respondents supported an earlier normalization of relations between the two countries, while 28 percent said nay.

### Beyond resentment

It's time for both nations to accelerate the normalization of relations through sincere efforts to put the joint declaration into practice so as to open a new page in the history of their relations by ridding themselves of a chain of their century-old resentment and standoff.

### IFAD President Visits DPRK

Lennart Bage had talks with DPRK Foreign Minister Paek Nam Sun on October 19 in Pyongyang.

The DPRK government hosted a reception at the Mansudae Assembly Hall Saturday in honor of Lennart Bage, President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development. Foreign Minister Paek Nam Sun, addressing the reception, said that Lennart's DPRK visit offered an important occasion of boosting cooperative relations between the DPRK and the IFAD.

Paek said that the Korean people felt thankful to the IFAD for rendering a lot of assistance including a long-term low-interest loan for the development of sericulture, stockbreeding and increased agricultural production and food security in alpine areas. Lennart in a speech said he was pleased to see the cooperative relations between the IFAD and the DPRK developing through the implementation of the IFAD's assistance projects.

The IFAD aims at promoting agricultural production in developing countries and eradicating poverty, he said and noted that its cooperation with the DPRK proves that this aim is being achieved.

Present there on invitation were WFP representative Masood Hyder who is also a UN resident coordinator and a resident representative of the UNDP, and representatives of several other international organizations in the DPRK.

### Pyongyang Sends Message of Sympathy to Indonesian Leader; Expresses Opposition to Terrorism

Kim Yong Nam, President of the Presidium of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly, on October 14 sent a message of sympathy to Indonesian President Megawati Soekarnoputri in connection with the October 12 bomb attack in Bali, a tourist island of Indonesia, that claimed the lives of hundreds of people, the Korean Central News Agency reported. In his message Kim Yong Nam expressed deep sympathy and consolation to the president and, through her, to the Indonesian government and people.

The message also explicitly clarified the principled stand of the DPRK government to oppose all forms of terrorism and expressed the belief that the president and government of Indonesia would eliminate the aftermath of the incident and bring the situation and the living of the people in the afflicted area to normal at an early date.

### Inter-Korean Rally

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on Oct. 13 and 14.

Various North Korean youth organizations attended the two-day meeting, such as the Kim Il Sung Socialist Youth League, the Korean Student Committee, the North Headquarters of the National Alliance of

Youth and Students for the Country's Reunification (Pomchonghakryun).

The rally was also attended by delegates of the South Korean Preparatory Committee for the Youth Society for Reunification, the Green Youth Solidarity, the Fellowship Society of the National Council of Student Representatives, the General Federation of the Christian Student Councils, the Catholic Youth Solidarity for Peace and Reunification and other youth and student organizations.

Korean youth organizations in Japan also participated in the event. Addressing the opening ceremony, representatives unanimously said that the joint declaration serves as a landmark in the movement for independent reunification of the Korean nation and as a reunification program.

"The joint rally will be a meaningful event to accelerate the movement of Korean youth and students and promote the nation's reunification movement," said Kim Gyong Ho, first secretary of the Kim Il Sung Socialist Youth League of north Korea.

The ceremony was followed by a forum on the issue of the implementation of the joint declaration.

Speakers called on young Korean people with a spirit and conscience of the Korean nation to play a vanguard role in the movement for the implementation of the joint declaration and unite firmly under the banner of the joint declaration, transcending the differences in ideology, social systems, political views and religious beliefs.

The rally also featured an art performance by North Korean children, a football match, sports, amusement games, a joint concert and hiking.

### DPRK-U.S. Relations

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it very clear (to Kelly) that it was entitled to possess ... nuclear weapon ... so as to defend its sovereignty and the right to existence from the ever-growing nuclear threat by the U.S." The nuance of the words, "be entitled to possess," should be understood correctly to fathom what Pyongyang means to say.

Fifth, Pyongyang raises three conditions for a peaceful settlement of the nuclear issue: 1)the U.S.'s recognition of North Korea's sovereignty; 2)the U.S.'s assurance of non-aggression of North Korea; 3)a halt to U.S. hindrance to the economic development of North Korea.

Lastly, as "a realistic and reasonable solution to the nuclear issue," the spokesman has suggested to conclude a non-aggression treaty between Pyongyang and Washington. And if Washington assures Pyongyang of non-aggression by such a treaty, if not a peace treaty which the latter has long advocated, "the DPRK will be ready to clear the U.S. of its security concerns," the spokesman said.

It is said that Pyongyang expects nothing from the Bush administration, including the U.S. provision of LWRs, aware that its North Korea policy is aimed to just isolate and disarm it based on a "stick-without-carrot" policy.

Neither Pyongyang nor Washington, however, has declared the "death of the AF." Both sides, and the international society, too, have stressed a negotiated solution to the nuclear issue.