

Kim Meets Trump in Hanoi. Failure of Second US-DPRK Summit

By Stephen Lendman

Global Research, February 28, 2019

Region: <u>Asia</u>, <u>USA</u> Theme: <u>History</u>

Two days of talks were cut short on Thursday with no resolution of major differences, no final statement as was issued after last June's summit – the customary format whenever formal meetings between leaders are held.

Negotiations broke down because of unacceptable Trump regime demands in return for hollow promises alone, no show of good faith against the backdrop of DLT's pullout from the JCPOA nuclear deal with Iran and 1987 INF Treaty with Russia – based on Big Lies when announced

Throughout North Korea's post-WW II history, US hostility toward its sovereign independence has been unrelenting – despite occasional public posturing otherwise.

A state of undeclared US war on the DPRK has existed since adoption of the uneasy 1953 armistice – after raping and destroying the country, Harry Truman's aggression, falsely blamed on Pyongyang.

What's going on post-mid-June 2018 Kim Jong-Un/Trump summit talks is reminiscent of how US/DPRK relations unravelled earlier.

Promises by Washington were breached. Pyongyang sought and continues to seek normalized relations with the US, West and other countries, respect for its sovereign independence, a formal peace treaty ending the 1950s war, lifting of unacceptable sanctions, and security guarantees in return for denuclearization – its self-defense deterrent against feared US aggression.

What's clear from both summits and longstanding US history is that its ruling authorities can never be trusted. Rare exceptions prove the rule.

Trump regime hardliners seek a denuclearized North Korean vassal state bordering China, an unattainable objective from Kim/Trump summit talks, the DPRK not about to alter its longstanding relationship with Beijing, its most reliable ally.

One-sided Trump regime aims are firm, including complete DPRK denuclearization, transforming North Korea into a US vassal state, and the illusion of durable peace on the peninsula between Pyongyang and the US – a nation permanently at war on humanity, wanting control over all other nations.

Ahead of Trump's press conference on Thursday from Hanoi, White House press secretary Sarah Sanders said "(n)o agreement was reached at this time, but their respective teams

look forward to meeting in the future."

No agreement nor a formal statement showed summit talks ended in failure. No brave face put on discussions can alter reality.

According to the White House-published schedule, Kim and Trump were to meet for a working lunch following talks – both leaders to take part in a joint signing ceremony, followed by a DLT news conference.

Without explanation, scheduled events at the conclusion of talks were cancelled. No concluding statement showed major differences remain unresolved.

The Trump regime's unwillingness even to sign a peace declaration, formally and symbolically ending the 1950s war as a show of good faith, was telling.

Trump told reporters he's in "no rush" to formally agree on a DPRK denuclearization deal, saying "we'll ultimately have" one, adding "(a)ll sanctions will remain."

Summits are rarely held without issues agreed on in advance, leaders meeting to formalize things – not this time indicating failure in Hanoi.

Asked by reporters if they'll be a third summit, Trump said:

"No. Let's see what will happen. I did not give commitments."

Over eight months after last June's Singapore summit, no meaningful progress was made to end over 70 years of US hostility toward Pyongyang.

Calling talks "productive" is code language for failure to agree on major issues. On Thursday, Kim and Trump were seen leaving the summit venue separately – two hours before they were expected to hold a signing ceremony.

"At this time, we decided not to do any of the options and we'll see where that goes," Trump told reporters, adding talks were "very interesting and productive (sic), (but) sometimes you have to walk."

Looking ahead, prospects for durable peace and stability on the Korean peninsula, along with normalization of US/DPRK relations, lifting of unacceptable sanctions, and agreement on other major issues, are virtually nil – because Pyongyang won't agree to subordinate its sovereignty to US interests.

That's the bottom line reality of dismal bilateral relations. Instead of stepping back from the brink for peace on the peninsula, the risk of possible conflict between both nations remains an ominous possibility if Trump regime hardliners fail to subordinate North Korean interests to their own.

*

Note to readers: please click the share buttons below. Forward this article to your email lists. Crosspost on your blog site, internet forums. etc.

Award-winning author Stephen Lendman lives in Chicago. He can be reached at <u>lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net</u>. He is a Research Associate of the Centre for Research on Globalization (CRG)

His new book as editor and contributor is titled "Flashpoint in Ukraine: US Drive for Hegemony Risks WW III."

http://www.claritypress.com/LendmanIII.html

Visit his blog site at <u>silendman.blogspot.com</u>.

Featured image: President Donald J. Trump is greeted by Kim Jong Un, Chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, for their second summit meeting | February 27, 2019 (Source: Official White House Photo by Shealah Craighead)

The original source of this article is Global Research Copyright © <u>Stephen Lendman</u>, Global Research, 2019

Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page

Become a Member of Global Research

Articles by: Stephen Lendman

About the author:

Stephen Lendman lives in Chicago. He can be reached at lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net. His new book as editor and contributor is titled "Flashpoint in Ukraine: US Drive for Hegemony Risks WW III." http://www.claritypress.com/LendmanIII.html Visit his blog site at sjlendman.blogspot.com. Listen to cuttingedge discussions with distinguished guests on the Progressive Radio News Hour on the Progressive Radio Network. It airs three times weekly: live on Sundays at 1PM Central time plus two prerecorded archived programs.

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca

www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca