

It's Madness: The Threat of Nuclear War or An "Accident" with North Korea

By [Bruce K. Gagnon](#) and [T.J. Coles](#)

Global Research, September 11, 2017

Region: [Asia, USA](#)

Theme: [Military and WMD, US NATO War Agenda](#)

In-depth Report: [NORTH KOREA, Nuclear War](#)

*As senior Arizona **Senator John McCain** (once considered a [moderate Republican](#)) threatens North Korea with "[extinction](#)" over its non-existent acts of aggression, German **Chancellor Angela Merkel** offers to play an "[active role](#)" in diplomacy. Meanwhile, US **President Trump**, who has threatened to destroy North Korea [since the year 2000](#), gives mixed signals, saying that war isn't inevitable but "[could happen](#)."*

Bruce K. Gagnon is Coordinator of the Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space. He co-wrote (with this author) [Voices for Peace: War, Resistance and America's Quest for Full-Spectrum Dominance](#), an edited anthology also featuring original contributions from John Pilger, Noam Chomsky, Cynthia McKinney and other leading activists and researchers. I asked Bruce about the ominous threat of nuclear war or accident with North Korea.

T.J. Coles: What's the likelihood of war? And what would such a war look like?

Bruce K. Gagnon: Crazy hot-headed Americans might trigger something or do a false flag to justify a response. South Korea doesn't want war, but sadly their government is run by Washington. South Korea would be devastated by conventional North Korea artillery and missiles, US soldiers would die by the thousands on their bases inside the country, and NK would be bombed (again, just like in 1950-53) back to the stone age. The war would likely spill over into Japan and could go nuclear quite quickly. It's madness.

TJC: How does America's North Korea strategy fit into its targeting of China and Pivot to Asia?

BKG: NK is the foil - used by the US to justify massive military expansion in the region which is actually aimed at China and Russia. NK is no real military threat to the US - despite their tough talk. But sometimes things don't go as planned and accidents happen. The NK foil allows the US to now be talking about returning its own nuclear weapons to the Korean peninsula which makes China and Russia very worried. And NATO is now talking about NK being "global problem" that the "Atlantic alliance" must deal with - so they are using this to expand into the global war machine that they've been developing since the end of the Cold War.

TJC: North Korea has a border with Russia, which, like China and the US, also has nuclear weapons. Where does Russia fit into this scenario?

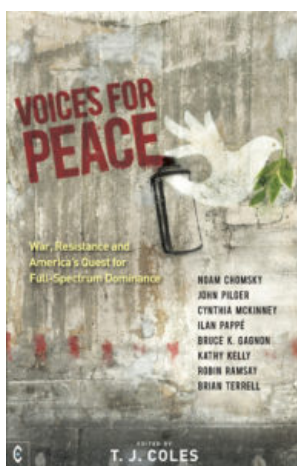
BKG: During the Korean War (North Korea called it the American War) Gen. Douglas MacArthur sent US warplanes over the border into Russia and bombed Vladivostok trying to draw Moscow into the war. They didn't take the bait. The US has always wanted regime change in Moscow - even now when they've gone capitalist. Russia has the world's largest supply of natural gas and as the Arctic ice melts the fossil fuel companies want to drill-baby-drill in that region - but guess who has the largest land border with the Arctic?

TJC: Can you talk about resistance to US missiles and troops in Japan and South Korea?

BKG: The resistance to US base expansion and "missile defense" systems (key elements in Pentagon first-strike attack planning) is strong and growing in South Korea and Okinawa. People in those places are fighting to preserve their environment, their culture and the peace because they know they've become prime targets in a war. They protest daily - something activists in the US and UK should be doing as our two countries are largely responsible for this out-of-control war machine that we are paying for with cuts in human needs programs and services.

TJC: How can we "Westerners" show our support and solidarity with people in the "Eastern" countries?

BKG: We've got to call our own governments to the carpet and identify them as the initiators of global chaos and endless war. We've got to pay more attention to what is going on in South Korea, Okinawa, Guam, Japan and other Asia-Pacific nations. We've got to bring the heart and spirit of these struggling folks in Asia-Pacific to our own streets, US military bases, and military production factories and demand an end to the imperial madness. We must demand conversion of the war machine to appropriate sustainable technologies so that we can quickly deal with our real problem, which is called climate change...



Title: Voices for Peace

Author: T. J. Coles

Publisher: Clairview Books, 1 September 2017

ISBN: 9781905570898

[Click here to order.](#)

-
-
-

This article was originally published by [PIPR](#).

Featured image is from [The Sun](#).

The original source of this article is Global Research
Copyright © [Bruce K. Gagnon](#) and [T.J. Coles](#), Global Research, 2017

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: **[Bruce K. Gagnon](#)** and **[T.J. Coles](#)**

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