

Mattis and Dunford Lie to Congress: North Korea is a "Threat to Peace and Security"

By <u>Stephen Lendman</u> Global Research, June 14, 2017 Region: <u>Asia</u>, <u>Russia and FSU</u> Theme: <u>US NATO War Agenda</u> In-depth Report: <u>NORTH KOREA</u>

In Monday testimony before the House Armed Services Committee, Defense Secretary Mattis mislead and deceived its members.

He lied calling North Korea the "most urgent and dangerous threat to peace and security," claiming the DPRK is America's top threat.

Pyongyang threatens no one – not America or any other country. Throughout its post-WW II history, it never attacked another country.

Washington is a serial aggressor, perpetually waging wars of choice, threatening the DPRK and all other independent countries it doesn't control – why Pyongyang pursues a nuclear and ballistic missile deterrent.

It's solely for self-defense if attacked, not for preemptive war on America or any other countries.

Mattis:

"North Korea's continued pursuit of nuclear weapons and the means to deliver them has increased in pace and scope."

"The regime's nuclear weapons program is a clear and present danger to all, and the regime's provocative actions, manifestly illegal under international law, have not abated despite United Nations' censure and sanctions."

Fact: America and its rogue allies threaten world peace and stability – their actions "manifestly illegal under international law," representing "a clear and present danger to all."

Mattis:

"(R)esurgent (Russia and China) are more aggressive," placing "the international order under assault."

Fact: Russia and China pursue policies of non-belligerence, seeking cooperative relations with all countries, threatening none.

Fact: Their strong alliance, independence and growing influence threaten America's desired unipolar world – wanting all other countries dominated, seeking regime change by color

revolutions or wars against any unwilling to observe Washington rules.

Mattis turned truth on its head, claiming he's seen no indication that Putin seeks cooperative relations with America. He's "chosen to be a strategic competitor," he blustered – a bald-faced Big Lie.

Appearing with Mattis, Joint Chiefs chairman **General Joseph ("fighting Joe") Dunford** called Russia, China, Iran, North Korea and terrorist groups America's "key challenges."

In July 2015 testimony before Senate Armed Services Committee members, Dunford said

"Russia presents the greatest threat to our national security."

"If you want to talk about a nation that could pose an existential threat to the United States, I'd have to point to Russia. If you look at their behavior, it's nothing short of alarming."

In written testimony, Dunford mentioned "aggression" 15 times – referring to Russia.

"What keeps me up at night is our ability to respond to the unexpected," he said.

"On balance, our force can deal with challenges that we have now. But there is very little residual capability – an undisguised request for greater military spending at a time America's only enemies are invented ones, clearly what his Monday testimony, along with Mattis," aimed for.

The so-called "terrorist" threat is a colossal hoax. America created and supports ISIS, al-Qaeda and likeminded groups in the Middle East, Central Asia, North Africa and elsewhere.

Along with its rogue allies, it recruits, arms, funds, trains and directs these groups, using them as imperial foot soldiers.



Oliver Stone and President Vladimir Putin (Source: Zero Hedge)

In **Oliver Stone**'s interview with **Vladimir Putin**, a four-part documentary airing on Showtime, begun Monday night, Russia's leader said

"Al-Qaeda is not the result of our activities."

"This is the result of activities of our US friends (sic). This all started in the times of the Soviet war in Afghanistan, when the US security services supported different movements of Islamic fundamentalism in their struggle against the Soviet troops in Afghanistan."

"The US side has nurtured both al-Qaeda and bin Laden."

The same goes for ISIS and similar groups, monsters used to serve its interests no matter the human cost.

Putin said Russia has evidence, proving CIA support for Islamic terrorists during the 1994 – 96 and 1999 – 2000 Chechen wars.

Washington continues supporting extremist groups hostile to Russia's security. Its longstanding policy aims to marginalize, weaken, contain, isolate, destabilize, weaken and topple its government – replacing it with pro-Western puppet rule.

Hyping a "Russian threat" is part of the strategy – a high risk one threatening possible nuclear war.

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