

# “Peace Negotiator” Mike Pompeo: There is a CIA Plot to Assassinate Kim Jong-un?

By [Prof Michel Chossudovsky](#)

Global Research, July 08, 2018

Global Research 27 May 2018

Region: [Asia](#)

Theme: [Intelligence](#)

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**UPDATE:** US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo was in Pyongyang on a two day visit “to press leader Kim Jong-un for details on his plans for denuclearisation.”

It was a polite and courteous welcome, Asian style.

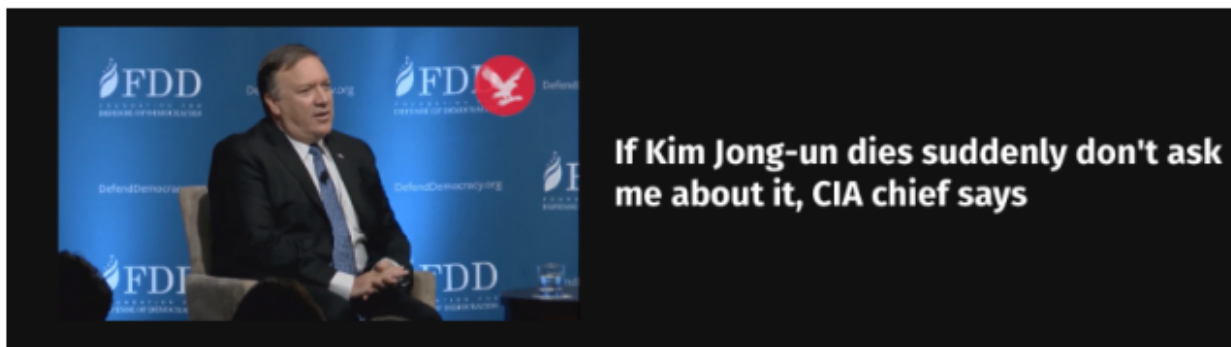
But with Pompeo in charge of negotiations, what are the prospects?

Back in October 2017, Pompeo hinted in no uncertain terms when he was head of the CIA:

“If Kim Jong-un suddenly dies, don’t ask me about it ... “

**“With respect, if Kim Jong-un should vanish, given the history of the CIA, I’m just not going to talk about it,”**

**“We are going to become a much more vicious agency...”**



And that’s the guy who’s in charge of “negotiating peace” with North Korea.

Fruitful negotiations? According to the New York Times, there was “distrust on both sides”.

Pyongyang negotiates with a U.S Secretary of State (former CIA Chief) who casually announced last October that Kim Jong-un was on the CIA’s assassination list.

Not surprisingly, hours following Pompeo’s departure, Pyongyang accused the Trump administration of pushing a “unilateral and gangster-like demand for denuclearization.” A mild understatement.

**Michel Chossudovsky**, July 8, 2018 ( text below published by GR on May 27, 2018)

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*In May of last year, the DPRK accused both the CIA (headed by Mike Pompeo) and the ROK's National Intelligence Service (NIS) of "a failed plot to assassinate its leader Kim Jong-un with a biochemical bomb at a military parade in Pyongyang."*

Neither the CIA nor the White House responded to these accusations.

While press reports acknowledged the CIA's "long history" of political assassinations, the DPRK's accusations were casually dismissed.

According to [The Guardian](#) (May 5, 2017)

"The CIA has a long history of helping to kill leaders around the world. US intelligence agency has since 1945 succeeded in deposing or killing a string of leaders, but was forced to cut back after a Senate investigation in the 1970s"

According to North Korea's ministry of state security, the CIA has not abandoned its old ways. In a statement on Friday, it accused that the CIA and South Korea's intelligence service of being behind an alleged recent an assassination attempt on its leader Kim Jong-un.

## The CIA has a long history of helping to kill leaders around the world

**US intelligence agency has since 1945 succeeded in deposing or killing a string of leaders, but was forced to cut back after a Senate investigation in the 1970s**

Guardian screenshot, May 5, 2017

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### **Mike Pompeo's Unannounced May 1, 2017 Mission to Seoul**

What the Western media failed to notice was that **the announcement** of the alleged assassination attempt directed against Chairman Kim (May 5, 2017) took place 5 days AFTER Mike Pompeo's arrival in Seoul on the weekend of April 29-30 for (unannounced) consultations with his intelligence counterparts on May 1. While there is no evidence that Pompeo's presence in Seoul on May 1 is related to the May 5 announcement of the alleged assassination plot, Pompeo's mission to Seoul was scheduled in the week PRIOR to the elections on May 9.

April 29-30 Arrival of Mike Pompeo in Seoul, with his wife

May 1 Seoul: Pompeo Consultations with intelligence and military counterparts, US military and US Embassy

May 5, Pyongyang: Announcement of an alleged failed assassination directed against Kim Jong-un

May 9, National elections

May 10, Inauguration of President Moon Jae-in

The timing of Pompeo's meetings in Seoul was crucial: in early May 2017, the intelligence team at the ROK National Intelligence Service (alias KCIA) headed by Langley's crony **Lee Byung-ho**, was STILL under the control of the appointees of impeached president **Park Geun-hye** (daughter of the late dictator Park Chung-hee assassinated in 1979).

South Korean media confirmed that Pompeo had behind closed doors meetings with NIS spy chief **Lee Byung-ho** as well as "high-level officials in the presidential office" which was under the helm of Park crony and acting president **Hwang Kyo-ahn** (who held the positions of Justice Minister and Prime Minister in the government of impeached president Park).

The NIS team during Mrs. Park's presidency (appointed by her predecessor) had been actively involved in an illicit propaganda scam to influence the vote in the 2012 elections which led to Mrs Park's victory. Following her impeachment and the election of President Moon, legal procedures were implemented directed against:

"**Lee Byung-ho** [who met Mike Pompeo on May 1, 2017] and two other NIS chiefs during the Park government suspected of having provided billions of won from the spy agency's special activities budget to the top office. The NIS is exempted from having to disclose where the funds, allocated for classified security operations, are used." ([KBS World Radio](#), November 10, 2017)

## Former NIS Chief Lee Byung-ho Appears for Questioning

Write : 2017-11-10 11:31:20 Update : 2017-11-13 08:55:56



The prosecution has summoned former National Intelligence Service(NIS) Director Lee Byung-ho over allegations that the spy agency delivered some four billion won to former President Park Geun-hye's aides.

Screenshot of Lee Byun-ho who met Pompeo behind closed doors on May 1, 2017, Source KBS World

Following Moon's accession to the presidency on May 10 2017, a new head of the ROK National Intelligence Service (NIS) **Suh Hoon** was duly appointed. While a major shuffle was undertaken within the spy agency, Suh Hoon's appointment had nonetheless been (formally) approved by Langley. The important question: has the CIA lost control of its historical clutch over the ROK's National Intelligence Service (NIS)?

### **Mike Pompeo's Grotesque Insinuation**

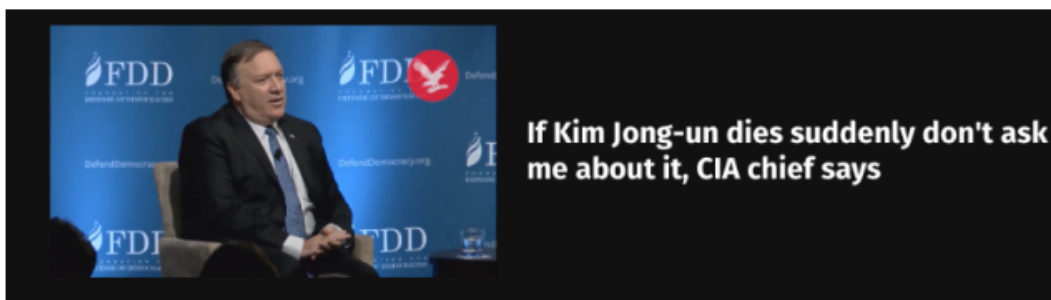
In a bitter irony, a few months later in October 2017 (see [SCMP report](#)) CIA Director **Mike Pompeo** (now Secretary of State) jokingly **denied and acknowledged** (without referring to the May 5, 2017 alleged assassination attempt during a military parade in Pyongyang) that there is a plot to assassinate Chairman Kim, which is part of the CIA's longstanding history of political assassinations. .

"If Kim Jong-un suddenly dies, don't ask me about it, says CIA chief"

**"With respect, if Kim Jong-un should vanish, given the history of the CIA, I'm just not going to talk about it,"** the CIA director said on Thursday, when asked what would happen if Kim suddenly died.

### **We are going to become a much more vicious agency**

... "The president's made it very clear. He's prepared to ensure that Kim Jong-un doesn't have the capacity to hold America at risk. By military force if necessary."



If **North Korea's Kim Jong-un** suddenly vanished or died, the **CIA** would keep quiet, its director has claimed.

Mike Pompeo told security officials at a Washington conference that the spy agency would not say anything publicly were something to happen to the communist despot.

"With respect, if Kim Jong-un should vanish, given the history of the CIA, I'm just not going to talk about it," he told the Foundation for Defence of Democracies forum.

"Someone might think there was a coincidence. 'You know, there was an accident.' It's just not fruitful."

In a bitter irony, the same Mike Pompeo who casually refers to the "CIA history" of political assassinations, has come to play a central role in the "peace" negotiations with Pyongyang.

The ROK's NIS Chief **Suh Hoon** together with Moon's National Security Advisor **Chung Eui-yong** were put in charge of a process of trilateral negotiation: DPRK-ROK-US, with ROK officials operating as a go-between. On March 6, **Chung Eui-yong**, together with four other senior ROK officials including **Suh Hoon**, met up with the DPRK leadership in Pyongyang.

This meeting on March 6, 2018 had set the stage for the former CIA director's followup "secret meeting in Pyongyang": Mike Pompeo who had intimated that political assassination of Chairman Kim was on the CIA's drawing board travelled to Pyongyang over the Easter holiday for talks with the DPRK leadership with a view to negotiating the terms of the Singapore Summit which had been set for June 12.

North Korean leaders were fully aware of Pompeo's real intent. They nonetheless played the game.

Peace was never on the US agenda. And this was true prior to the appointment of John Bolton as National Security Adviser. The objective is to shunt the inter-Korean dialogue and impose a unilateral process of "denuclearization".

The Kim-Moon dialogue is viewed by Washington as a potential obstacle. Acknowledged by Pompeo, there is a CIA Plot to assassinate Kim Jong-un. Is it Pompeo's Plan B?

In recent developments, following the Moon-Kim May 26 meeting on the North Korean side of the Panmunjom truce village of the DMZ, President Moon said that he was "perplexed" by Trump's decision to cancel the Singapore summit and urged Washington and Pyongyang to resolve their differences through "more direct and closer dialogue".

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### About the author:

Michel Chossudovsky is an award-winning author, Professor of Economics (emeritus) at the University of Ottawa, Founder and Director of the Centre for Research on Globalization (CRG), Montreal, Editor of Global Research. He has undertaken field research in Latin America, Asia, the Middle East, sub-Saharan Africa and the Pacific and has written extensively on the economies of developing countries with a focus on poverty and social inequality. He has also undertaken research in Health Economics (UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), UNFPA, CIDA, WHO, Government of Venezuela, John Hopkins International Journal of Health Services (1979, 1983) He is the author of 13 books including The Globalization of Poverty and The New World Order (2003), America's "War on Terrorism" (2005), The Globalization of War, America's Long War against Humanity (2015). He is a contributor to the Encyclopaedia Britannica. His writings have been published in more than twenty languages. In 2014, he was awarded the Gold Medal for Merit of the Republic of Serbia for his writings on NATO's war of aggression against Yugoslavia. He can be reached at [crgeditor@yahoo.com](mailto:crgeditor@yahoo.com)

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