A Welcomed New Era but Tasks Remain

Choi, Sung-hee,
Annual Space Organizing Conference, Oxford, England, June 22-24, 2018
April 29, 2018 marked the 4000\textsuperscript{th} day of struggle against Jeju navy base, Gangjeong village. The base opened in February 2016. We demand to close the base!
A New Era
“[..]there will be no more war on the Korean Peninsula and thus a new era of peace has begun.” (Panmunjeom declaration, April 27 Inter-Korean Summit meeting, 2018)

3. [...] Bringing an end to the current unnatural state of armistice and establishing a robust peace regime on the Korean Peninsula is a historical mission that must not be delayed any further.

(1) [...] reaffirmed the Non-Aggression Agreement that precludes the use of force in any form against each other, [...]

(2) [...] carry out disarmament in a phased manner, [...]

(3) [...]actively pursue trilateral meetings involving the two Koreas and the United States, or quadrilateral meetings involving the two Koreas, the United States and China with a view to declaring an end to the War and establishing a permanent and solid peace regime.

(4) [...] realizing, through complete denuclearization, a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula. [...] actively seek the support and cooperation of the international community [...]

“[..] President Trump committed to provide security guarantees to the DPRK, and Chairman Kim Jong Un reaffirmed his firm and unwavering commitment to complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.”
(Joint Statement, June 12 DPRK-US Summit meeting, 2018)

Convinced that the establishment of new US-DPRK relations will contribute to the peace and prosperity of the Korean Peninsula and of the world,
[..]

(1) [..] commit to establish new US-DPRK relations, [..]

(2) [..] join their efforts to build a lasting and stable peace regime on the Korean Peninsula. [..]

(3) [..] Reaffirming the April 27, 2018 Panmunjom Declaration, the DPRK commits to work toward complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula

(4) [..] commit to recovering POW/MIA remains, including the immediate repatriation of those already identified [..]
‘Consistent with President Trump's commitment and in concert with our Republic of Korea ally, the United States military has suspended all planning for this August's defensive "wargame" (Freedom Guardian)’ on which Trump mentioned as “very provocative” and costly in June 12 press conference. (June 17, 2018)

- ‘Ulchi Freedom Guardian is an annual U.S.-South Korean command and control exercise that began in 1976. Designed on the premise of all-about war against North Korea, it includes the scenarios of preemptive strike against North Korea and decapitation of her leadership. In 2017, about 17,500 U.S. service members took part, as well as participants from Australia, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and New Zealand.’ The war game is in violation of UN Charter, ROK-US Defense Treaty, and South Korea Constitution.
People in support of April 27 Inter-Korean and June 12 DPRK-US Summit meetings

(Source: SPARK, June 9, 2018)
Tasks
Vincent Brooks, Commander of the United States Forces of Korea, as well as Commanders of the ROK-US Combined Command and UN Commander has made a statement in the United States Senate Committee on Armed Services in 2016 and 2017.

In addition to the deployment of Patriot, THAAD, and Aegis BMD capable ships to the Pacific, what other steps, if any, do you think are necessary to provide adequate protection for U.S., partner, and allied assets?

I believe we must continue to enhance the interoperability of the ROK and U.S. BMD capabilities to ensure the rapid and seamless sharing of ballistic missile warning, tracking, and engagement information.

Other steps include encouraging the ROK to continue developing its indigenous ballistic missile defense capabilities and to ensure they are interoperable with U.S. capabilities. This effort should also focus on ROK procurement of sufficient BMD-capable munitions to enhance its own defensive capabilities and contribution to Alliance BMD. Progress in this area would directly contribute to the ROK meeting one of the conditions for OPCON transition.

Further, encouraging the ROK to participate in U.S. – ROK – Japan trilateral BMD-link exercises and discussions will improve protection. I understand that the 2014 Trilateral Information Sharing Agreement provides a framework for trilateral discussions and information exchanges with regard to the NK nuclear and ballistic missile threat.

South Korea is also investing significantly in its own military capabilities, increasing its defense budget by four percent in 2017, to $34.77 billion, or 2.6 percent of national GDP. Many of their acquisitions directly benefit the U.S. economy, as the R.O.K. spends approximately 90 percent of its weapons budget on U.S. systems, including the F-35, Apache E-model attack helicopters and Patriot Advanced Capability-3 (PAC-3) missile defense systems. The R.O.K. defense ministry also decided this year to accelerate Korean Air and Missile Defense programs to enhance responses to the North Korean nuclear and missile threat.

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THAAD base construction should be stopped! THAAD should be removed!

People including grandmothers in Soseong-ri, Seongju, main land of Korea against THAAD base construction, 2018
Harry Harris, a former U.S. Pacific Command chief, was nominated as a US ambassador to South Korea on May 18, 2018

“North Korea remains our most imminent threat... and a nuclear-capable North Korea with missiles that can reach the United States is unacceptable.

**China remains our biggest long-term challenge.** Without focused involvement and engagement by the U.S. and our allies and partners, China will realize its dream of hegemony in Asia. We should cooperate with Beijing where we can... but stand ready to confront them where we must.” (May 30, 2018)

"decisions that we make are **alliance decisions**, decisions are made with our South Korean ally and not made unilaterally. And they need to make their **decisions based on the alliance** as well." (June 14, 2018)
Jeju navy base as the integrated foothold for the Ballistic Missile Defense (MD) system should be closed.
The Jeju navy base (Jeju Civilian-Military Complex Beauty Tour Port) is composed of Jeju base squadron, 7th task flotilla and submarine squadron, beside a cruise terminal. The Jeju navy base is a South Korean base. However, deployment of US navy is possible according to the article 4 of subordinate ROK-US Mutual Defense Treaty, signed in 1953, taken effect in 1954. We had 10 foreign navy ships including 6 US ships, 2 Canadian ships and 2 Australian ships in 2017. This year, there have been no foreign ships yet but US military sometimes appears in the base.
Zumwalt and protest to Zumwalt in Bath, Maine, US and Jeju, Korea.
Once completed, and at the invitation of South Korea, the United States should send ships to call at Jeju Naval Base. A medium-sized ship, such as an Arleigh Burke class destroyer, should make the first visit. Such a ship would be comparable to those already calling at the port of Incheon in the northern Yellow Sea. It would be large enough to show support for our South Korean allies, but too small for China to view its visit as a U.S. escalation.

The first visit should be short, no more than three days. A longer visit might stoke fears among both the local population and in China that the United States intends to establish a permanent presence. The ship’s company should treat liberty at Jeju Island as a mission. After losing a long political battle to stop construction, many of the local people will likely still have hurt feelings. The impression left by the first visit will set the tone for future visits. All hands should be required to go ashore in uniform to present the best image of American Sailors and to encourage their best behavior. The visiting ship should come from a recent port visit elsewhere. If the visit ship spends too long at sea prior to calling at Jeju Island, the risk of Sailors overdoing it while “blowing off steam” increases. With the help of the ROK Navy, the ship’s company should take part in as many community relations (COMMREL) projects as possible, particularly in neighboring Gangjeong Village.

After leaving Jeju, the same American ship should visit a Chinese naval base in the region, such as Shanghai. Once again, the Sailors should dress in uniform while on liberty and take on visible COMMREL projects. By following up a Jeju visit with a China visit, the United States can demonstrate support for its ROK ally and reassure both China and the South Korean people that the United States seeks friendly relations in the region.
No International Fleet Review (Naval Review)!

The Gangjeong village association declared its opposition to the navy review (planned in October, 2018) in Jeju navy base through the vote on March 30, 2018. However, it seems the navy still has attachment to Jeju for a navy review (parade of warships) in Jeju.
69 countries are expected to join 2018 ROK Naval Review
(Red: NATO members / Green: NATO Partnership for Peace/ Underlined: WPNS Member countries as of 2010/ *: WPNS observers as of 2010)

• Asia(20) Japan, China, Indonesia, India*, Thailand, Malaysia, Mongol, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Bangladesh*, Brunei, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Pakistan, Philippines, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine

• Middle East(8) Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Arab Emirates, Oman, Iraq, Israel, Kuwait, Katar

• Europe(20) Greece, Netherlands, Norway, Denmark, Germany, Russia, Luxembourg, Belgium, Sweden, Swiss, Spain, United Kingdom*, Italy, Turkey, Portugal, Poland, France, Finland, Hungary

• America(9) Mexico*, United States, Brazil, Argentina, Ecuador, Chile, Canada, Columbia, Peru*

• Oceania(4) New Zealand, Tonga, Papua New Guinea, Australia

• Africa(8) Nigeria, South Africa, Angola, Ethiopia, Uganda, Egypt, Djibouti, Kenya
Denuclearize and Demilitarize

Jeju

An art piece on Jeju by Suzanna Lasker, an artist from the state of Maine, United States.
A radar base on the Moseulbong Peak in the South west of Jeju, 2006 vs. 2017

Photos by Seogwipo Shinmun, Choi Sung-hee, and Oum Mun-hee)
The so called Asia-biggest Jeju aerospace museum (JAM)

“War is not game” Keep Space for Peace picketing, 2014
Stop the 2\textsuperscript{nd} Jeju Airport (Air force base) project!
2018 Inter-Island Solidarity Peace for the Sea Camp in Jeju, July 25 to 29
2018 Jeju Grand March for Life and Peace, July 30 to Aug. 4
This year marks the 70th remembrance year of Jeju April 3rd uprising and massacre. The struggles of Gangjeong and Seongsan can be called as the 2nd April 3rd as people resist to U.S. domination strategy on the region. Please sign to Petition: Campaign for the U.S. government to take responsible actions for their role in the Jeju April 3rd Massacre http://bit.ly/2ijyQaO

For more information

On Anti-Jeju navy base struggle

Save Jeju Now http://savejejunow.org/
No Naval Base on Jeju
https://www.facebook.com/groups/nonavalbase/

On Jeju April 3rd

“What is the Jeju April 3rd Uprising and Massacre”
http://www.4370jeju.net/bbs/content.php?co_id=intro_en&me_code=4010