

The Soviet warplan behind the democracy campaign in Korea

by Linda de Hoyos

South Korean President Chun Doo Hwan met June 3 with the leader of the major opposition New Korea Democratic Party (NKDP), to begin negotiations for the revision of the South Korean constitution during Chun's administration. The parliament, dominated by the ruling Democratic Justice Party, has already agreed that after the 1988 presidential elections, to be carried out by an electoral college in that year, presidential elections would be direct. But the opposition, led by Kim Dae Jung and Kim Young Sam of the NKDP, has launched a broad campaign demanding "democracy now."

The two Kims, who enjoy substantial support from the U.S. State Department and the human-rights mafia on Capitol Hill, not coincidentally launched their campaign in earnest immediately after the overthrow of Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos by a U.S.-backed military coup. The crusade for democracy in South Korea, declared the opposition camp, would bring the "warm winds of the Philippines north to South Korea." And even as late as May 27, after the government had begun negotiations with the Chun government, Kim Dae Jung declared at a rally, "If there is no concession from the government, we will take the decision to make mass protest on the streets. We will have the triumph of people power, just as they did in the Philippines."

But the model for the crisis now gripping this key U.S. ally in the Pacific is not the Philippines. South Korea is today, rather, the mirror image in Asia of the strategic crisis in West Germany. In West Germany, the Green Party, backed by funds from Libya and the Soviet Union, is carrying out low-intensity military warfare against the West German government, on direct orders from Moscow. The Green Party shock-troops are protected by the appeasers and Soviet agents of influence of the Social Democratic Party; the Green Party, in turn, acts as cover for Soviet spetsnaz (special forces) deployed as part of the Soviet warplan to break the NATO alliance (see article, p. 38).

In South Korea, the NKDP protects the student radicals, using them as a battering ram against the government. After opposition leaders agreed to negotiations with the Chun government, radical students surrounded an opposition rally, denouncing the opposition leaders as "sell-outs" and attacking the perimeters of the rally. As the police were battling

with the rampaging students, Kim Young Sam threatened the government from the rally podium, "Nobody can stop the billowing flood of democratization. If anyone tries to stop it, he will be a victim of the flood."

The NKDP is demanding that the government release all dissidents as a precondition for resolving the constitutional fight. The party also wants the government to call off its investigation of Mintongyon, a terrorist organization whose leader, Rev. Moon Ik-hwan, was arrested May 27 for his possible role in the major riots May 3 in Inchon. The government has agreed to consider the first demand, but will not accede to the second. "Radical and violent leftism that would encourage the North Korean communists can never be tolerated," President Chun stated, "and attempts to agitate and use the young people are criminal acts against the nation and its history."

Students camouflage spetsnaz

While the radical students operate within the protective environment set by the NKDP, they, in turn, function as the camouflage for North Korean-deployed spetsnaz infiltrated into the South, out of the 100,000-man special force directed by the insane Kim Chong-il, the man considered the mastermind behind the Oct. 9, 1983 terror bombing of the South Korean government in Rangoon.

Since May 3, the student radicals have taken to the streets in increasingly violent rampages, in riots designed to lead to a repeat of the 1980 student uprising in the city of Kwangju that was bloodily crushed by the government. In the past month and a half, instead of agitating for "democracy," the slogans of the rioters have turned to demands for the total overthrow of the government and for the "Americans to get out." The May 3 riots in Inchon were masterminded by two groups, according to South Korean authorities—the Minmintu and the Chamintu. The Minmintu calls for bringing down the Chun government by boycott, while the Chamintu demands the withdrawal of U.S. troops from the Korean peninsula.

Within South Korea, the binding link between the NKDP and the violent student groups is the Catholic and Protestant Churches. Cardinal Kim Sou-hwan is attempting to play the same role in South Korea, as his fellow Theology of Libera-

tion sympathizer Cardinal Jaime Sin played in the Philippines. The Cardinal meets regularly with the opposition leaders, and has preached from the pulpit for the "democracy" campaign in threatening tones against the government. The Protestant churches, representing 8 million South Koreans, are also backing the campaign, with the National Council of Churches coordinating operations. The Protestant and Catholic churches are strongest in the cities, among the urban middle class, whose youth, under church sponsorship, have turned the universities into hotbeds of radicalism.

In Inchon, the local Catholic Church is under direct investigation for its possible role in aiding the violent riots there. A search of the local parish church found a stockpile of riot-type weapons, including the makings for Molotov cocktails. The student rally against the opposition was, according to reports, led by Catholic priests. One priest was heard shouting, "The U.S. should stop supporting dictatorships."

"The riots in South Korea will get steadily worse," predicted one knowledgeable church worker quoted in the London *Sunday Times* on May 25. "They are not merely emotional things. They are already worse than we have ever known them. But we have seen nothing yet. It is all part of a careful plan." The rioting, he said, has a "ritualized" style, with students regularly assembling at the same hour each day, armed with gasoline bombs and stones, facing police armed with tear gas.

Troops from the North

Although the radicals of South Korea are aided and abetted by pro-Liberation Theology elements, this is not their only sponsor. On May 18 and 19—the sixth anniversary of the Kwangju uprising—mass rallies were held in cities throughout North Korea in commemoration of the vain attempt by North Korean-guided students to seize power in 1980. Echoing *Pravda's* lauds of the West German Green Party, rally speakers in Pyongyang declared that the "Kwangju popular uprising was a most fierce massive resistance, largest in scale in the modern history of the liberation struggle of the eastern people against autocratic government and for democracy. The Kwangju massacre clearly proved that the Chon Doo Hwan group is a group of human butchers who slaughter fellow countrymen without hesitation to maintain their power, and the U.S. imperialists are neither 'helper' nor 'friend' of the South Korean people but their murderer and enemy." Such statements are then beamed into South Korea.

Pyongyang has also taken a direct interest in the case of Rev. Moon Ikh-hwan, demanding his release and calling the Chun government's labeling of his Mintongyon "a vivid glimpse of the fascist clique's sinister intention to dissolve the federation by force."

The program of Reverend Moon, however, matches precisely the lines of subversion coming from the north. Moon was arrested for illegal entry onto the Seoul National University May 27 and for a speech he delivered to a crowd of 2,000

students on the Kwangju uprising. "Six years ago, more than 2,000 citizens in Kwangju fought without any fear of a shower of bullets. They did so for democracy." According to South Korean press reports, he blamed the problems of the farming sector on the "lack of democracy"; declared that the "problem is that 55% of the 10 million wage earners earn less than 100,000 won a month"; and told the students, "Let's fight against Americans who supported previous and incumbent dictatorial regimes, who trampled on our liberty and who hamper the realization of democracy."

The result of this haranguing was that a student committed suicide by self-immolation on the campus during the speech, an act hailed by Pyongyang as a "resolute act." On May 29, Pyongyang Domestic Service praised self-immolation, declaring, "No matter what tactic they may employ, the oppressors will not be able to extinguish the blaze of resistance burning vigorously among the South Korean students and people. . . . The Chun fascist clique should not drive the students and people to death but step down from power at an early date, as demanded by them."

Such North Korean propaganda takes place at a point when Soviet-directed terrorism is on the rise in Northeast Asia. Tokyo, in the period leading up to and during the May 4-6 summit of OECD leaders there, was the site of several terrorist attacks carried out by the "Middle Core"—a self-avowed left terror group. According to Japanese sources, there is a North Korean component to the "Middle Core." There are nearly 700,000 Koreans in Japan, most of whom are loyal not to Seoul, but to Pyongyang.

Alerts have also been posted from Japan, warning that 15 members of the terrorist Japanese Red Army are heading for South Korea with orders to carry out terrorist acts there. The Japanese Red Army has ties both to North Korean and Syrian intelligence.

In Japan, the anti-American Socialist Party is the "democratic" arm of the terrorists. The JSP also has extensive ties to North Korea, recognizing Pyongyang, but not Seoul. Attempts by its chairman, Masashi Ishibashi, to visit Seoul for discussions with opposition leaders, have been thwarted by Seoul's denial of a visa.

Although North Korea prefers to think of itself as independent—its gnostic brainwashing ideology, *chuche*, is based on "self-reliance"—over the last year, the North Korean regime has pulled far closer to Moscow than ever before. The Soviets, the only power to defend the Rangoon bombing in contrast to China, are now delivering MiG-23s to Pyongyang. In January, messages from Pyongyang delivered to Tokyo by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze were seen by political observers as the signal that Pyongyang had come under Moscow's wing. North Korea's 800,000-man army has become a deployable resource in the Soviet war strategy. It is this relationship—and not the opposition's "people's power"-like demonstrations for democracy—that is the key factor determining the increasingly dangerous turn of events in South Korea.