THE UNITED STATES IS THE REAL RULER OF SOUTH KOREA

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Pyongyang, May, 1967

(Translation from Korean text)

Today South Korea has been converted into a complete colony and military base of the United States.

The United States, having established its sway over all the political, economic, cultural and military affairs in South Korea, behave like the master there.

From the first days of its occupation of South Korea, the United States, while pursuing the policy of colonial enslavement, started working to perpetuate the national division of Korea.

The present regime of South Korea is a tool of colonial rule rigged up by the threat of U.S. bayonets, a smoke screen to cover up U.S. colonial rule.

The United States has converted South Korea into its own colony and the South Korean regime has become a mere puppet in the hands of the United States. This can be seen clearly through the various unequal treaties and agreements signed between the United States and South Korea.

In August 1948, the United States rigged up the South Korean puppet regime by the threat of bayonets. Then, on September 11, 1948, the United States imposed upon South Korea the "Agreement on the Transfer of Finance and Property". This agreement stipulates that "the Government of the Republic of Korea shall keep in full force all the present laws, ordinances and regulations of the U.S. Military Government in Korea".

Thus the puppet regime of South Korea was made to assume the obligation to inherit all the policies of colonial enslavement pursued by the U.S. military government in South Korea for the preceding three years.

The same agreement provides for the right of the U.S. government to the property and its annexes of the "Republic of Korea", in which it is interested, be it corporeal or incorporeal, movables or immovables, and points out that the ownership shall be transferred to the U.S. government at its request.

As seen above, the agreement stipulates that the United States is entitled to expropriate at will whatever it needs without any restrictions in South Korea.

Prior to this, a "Temporary Administrative Agreement on Military Affairs and Public Security to be Enacted in the Interim Period" was concluded on August 24, 1948.

Under the agreement, the U.S. Army Commander in the "Republic

of Korea" was made responsible for the command of the ROK security force composed of all the existing police, coast guards and the national defence constabularies, and seized the "right to exercise the over-all strategic control". Moreover, the agreement stipulates that the "President of the Republic of Korea... shall refrain from control over regions and facilities (harbours, barracks, railways, communication lines, airfields and the like) which the U.S. Army Commander deems necessary", thereby acknowledging the over-all military control of the United States over South Korea.

On December 10, 1948, the U.S. government concluded the "ROK-U.S. Aid Agreement" with the South Korean puppet clique. Under this agreement, the United States, in return for its "aid", seized the right to control and manage all economic affairs in South Korea including the disposal of all natural resources, production and distribution, the issue of currency, finance and credit, foreign exchange transactions, exports and imports, forced collection of rice and rationing of food grains.

Under this agreement, the South Korean puppet regime not only handed over to the United States the right of control over the entire economic life, but assumed the obligation to "remove all causes hampering the shipment of South Korean natural resources to the United States."

On January 26, 1950 the "ROK-U.S. Mutual Defence And Aid Agreement" was concluded.

The agreement provides that "the aid offered by the United States shall be in conformity with the mutual defence and aid law enforced in 1949 and other U.S. ordinances to be enforced hereafter", and that "the Government of the Republic of Korea shall provide the U.S. representatives with convenience to fully and freely investigate into the utilization of the aid offered in accordance with the pact."

Thus the United States seized the right to intervene in all the internal affairs of South Korea under the name of "aid".

The agreement also ensures the United States the unlimited right to plunder South Korea of its natural resources by stipulating that the South Korean puppet government shall "produce and transfer to the U.S. Government within a fixed period a fixed amount of raw materials and semiprocessed goods available in South Korea when requested by the United States owing to its shortage or potential shortage of resources."

During the period of the Korean war, the United States wangled from South Korea more agreements of all kinds aimed at strengthening its colonial sway and plunder in South Korea.

The "Agreement on Economic Co-ordination between the Republic of Korea and the Unified Command" concluded on May 24, 1952, provided for the organization of the "ROK-U.S. Joint Economic Committee" to "examine all items of the economic plan of the Republic of Korea."

In October 1953, following the cessation of hostilities in Korea, the United States concluded the "ROK-U.S. Mutual Defence Pact" in gross violation of the Korean Armistice Agreement. In accordance with the pact, the United States was given the right to station its troops "indefinitely" in South Korea. This reveals more clearly the intention of the U.S. imperialists to convert South Korea into their permanent colony and military base.

On December 14, 1953, the United States forged the "Convention of the ROK-U.S. Joint Economic Committee on Economic Reconstruction and Financial Stabilization plan" as a supplement to the above-mentioned "Agreement on Economic Co-ordination".

Under this agreement, the representative of the U.S. side in the ROK-U.S. Joint Economic Committee" obtained the right to fix the exchange rate of the U.S. dollar and the South Korean currency, adjust the market prices, procure, introduce and distribute "aid" goods.

The United States which had thus converted South Korea into its own colony and military base and established sway over the whole spheres of the economy through all these treaties and agreements, manufactured the "ROK-U.S. Treaty of Friendship, Trade and Navigation" on November 28, 1956, for the purpose of raking in the maximum colonial super-profits. Under this treaty, the Americans are vested with the unlimited right to engage in "all kinds of trade, industry, banking and other profit-making activities" in South Korea, "no matter what form they may take," and are even entitled to extraterritorial immunities which prevent the South Korean authorities from punishing the Americans in cases of criminal acts and from imposing taxes on them at their own discretion.

On February 8, 1961, the United States on the pretext of simplifying all these treaties and agreements, cooked up the "ROK-U.S. Economic and Technical Agreement".

Under this agreement, the United States under the name of "aid" obtained the full right to exercise control and supervision in all fields of political, economic and military affairs beginning with the examination of South Korea's budget.

In accordance with this agreement, the South Korean authorities are to assume unilateral obligation, while the United States is only to exercise rights.

All activities of the South Korean puppet clique should be based

on the "related laws and regulations of the United States", and the United States has the right to "inspect and re-examine without limitations the planning and the related documents" of South Korea.

The South Korean puppet clique shall "furnish the United States government with complete information about the planning... and other related information", and be subjected to the latter's control.

The South Korean puppet clique are also under the obligation to offer the maximum of manpower and materials needed in achieving the aims of military aggression of the United States.

This agreement even stipulates that the same privileges as those of a diplomat shall be accorded to the Americans and their family members visiting South Korea, and that measures shall be taken to exempt them from paying all kinds of taxes.

This agreement is nothing but a complete legalization of the relationship of subordination of a colony to its suzerain state.

Hence, to say nothing of the voices of stormy protest of the South Korean people, the agreement evoked fierce opposition even in South Korea's national assembly.

"The agreement, in view of its content and the circumstances of negotiations, reminds us of the Ulsa Protectorate Treaty (a vassal treaty imposed upon Korea by Japanese imperialism in 1905) concluded prior to Japan's annexation of Korea", denounced the national assembly-men of South Korea. "It aims to augment the right to control and supervise in every way", and "we feel ashamed when comparing this with the agreements signed by other countries" (Seoul, Feb. 13, 1961, South Korean news agency *Dongyang*).

On July 9, 1966, the U.S. imperialists concluded the "ROK-U.S. Status of Forces Agreement" with the South Korean puppet clique, under which the latter are not even entitled to deal with the criminal acts committed by the U.S. military personnel "while on official duty" and it is the U.S. military authorities that have the right to verify whether crimes have been committed while "on or off official duty". Even with regard to any crime committed "while off official duty", if the U.S. military authorities request the South Korean side to desist from dealing with the case, the latter is supposed to comply with the request without reservation.

Thus this "Agreement" not only has not sufficient binding power over the arbitrariness of U.S. armymen in any case related to "criminal jurisdiction", "utilization of military bases and installations", "civil claims" or "labour regulations", but, on the contrary, ensures them their previous extraterritorial immunities and allows them to violate the lives, property and civil rights of the South Korean people at will.

Such shackling and unequal treaties and agreements amount to

nearly 70, concluded since the establishment of a puppet government in South Korea in 1948.

Through these treaties and agreements, the United States has completely chained the South Korean puppet regime to it so that the puppet regime cannot take any action without instructions from its U.S. master.

The U.S. embassy, the "U.S. Agency of International Development in Korea", the "U.N. Command", etc., are virtually the backbone of the U.S. ruling machinery in South Korea.

The U.S. embassy in Seoul is literally a government-general.

The number of the U.S. embassy personnel exceeds that of those who were employed in the former Japanese Government-General.

The "U.S. Agency of International Development in Korea" has a huge set-up with a large number of staff members and holds sway over economy of South Korea as a whole.

The United States has thousands of its "advisors assigned to each department of the South Korean puppet government, economic organs, major industrial enterprises and banks, and exercises control over them.

The U.S. Army Commander, who is vested with the supreme command over the South Korean troops, has his "advisors" assigned to and direct and supervise the South Korean army units down to the regiments.

The U.S. Army Commander has established control over everything, even the promotion of officers, training and leave of absence of soldiers, to say nothing of the organization, equipment, movement and disposition of the South Korean army.

Thus, in South Korea today, the U.S. imperialist aggressors intervene in all spheres of government, economy, culture and military affairs and nothing, be it big or small, can be settled apart from U.S. direction and supervision.

The U.S. ambassador receives reports from the puppet government about the prevailing situation covering the whole areas of national defence and economy, and even personally listens to the briefings on the state of affairs at each provincial government.

The U.S. ambassador, with an eye to controlling and supervising in detail all the activities of the South Korean regime, watches its every move.

It was made public that the "Prime Minister" of the South Korean puppet government "shall make a day's inspection tour of the localities every Monday and shall be accompanied by Ambassador Berger each time" (Seoul, May 15, 1964, South Korean news agency *Hapdong*).

It was none other than the U.S. ambassador who personally ordered the proclamation of martial law to suppress the anti-government demonstrations of the South Korean people designed to smash the traitorous scheme of the Pak Jung Hi clique to round up the "South Korea-Japan talks" when the demonstrations reached the climax in June 1964.

At that time U.S. Ambassador Berger, together with the U.S. Army Commander, took a helicopter to the "Presidential" residence completely besieged by the anti-government demonstrators, "talked with President Pak how to cope with the grave situation facing the ROK Government" (South Korean daily *Kukje Shinbo* in Seoul, Jun. 3, 1964), and this eventually led to the proclamation of martial law and the bloody suppression by tens of thousands of South Korean troops mobilized on the order of the U.S. Army Commander.

Another fact was revealed in the national assembly of South Korea in 1965, indicating that the U.S. ambassador was acting in the capacity of governor-general.

During the interpellation with regard to the recent anti-government coup d'etat of the South Korean armymen, a member of the national assembly pointed out that "though the Prime Minister was involved in the incident, it was decided at the three-man talks of President Pak, U.S. Ambassador to Korea Brown and UN Commander Howze that the names of accomplices should be limited, considering that the situation would become out of control if Prime Minister Chung was mentioned as involved" (Seoul, Jun. 3, 1965, South Korean news agency *Hapdong*).

In the economic field, the South Korean puppet regime cannot make an estimate or engage in production activities without the consent of the United States, nor can it even fix the electric charges and the prices of tobacco at will without the approval of the U.S. side.

A New York Times reporter wrote: "The United States Government holds the weapon of economic aid to dominate this country in a large measure" (South Korean daily *Chosun Ilbo*, Apr. 6, 1963).

In working out the "financial stabilization plan" the limit for the yearly increase of currency volume and for foreign currency holdings is set in detail at the "ROK-U.S. Joint Economic Committee" (Seoul, May 15, 1965, South Korean news agency *Donghwa*).

Even the procurement price of autumn grain, electric charges and prices of coal can not be raised without approval of the "USOM".

The Minister of Agriculture and Forestry of the South Korean puppet government is called up by the director of the rural development division of the United States Operation Mission in Korea to "ex-

plain to the U.S. side about the basic direction for the working out of the government program for increasing grain output", while the Director of the Planning Council meets the director of the "United States Operation Mission in Korea" "to report the immediate economic problems in general".

Hence, even foreign press pointed out that "the Republic of Korea government is nothing but an aid fund distribution committee. The U.S.O.M. in Korea is the South Korean government behind the scenes" (Japanese magazine *Chuokoron,* Feb. issue, 1962).

This is the direct outcome of U.S. "aid" to South Korea, which is the very bait and means to invade and subjugate South Korea.

The United States claims to have rendered South Korea over 12 billion dollars of "aid" during the period from 1945 to 1965, of which 3.8 billion dollars were for economic "aid" and the rest was disbursed for military expenses aimed at aggression in Korea.

Due to the U.S. "aid" the economy of South Korea today has been ruined utterly and the people are in dire straits.

A South Korean newspaper pointed out: "despite the fabulous sum of 3.7 billion dollars of U.S. aid it has received over 20 years, our country, far from building an independent economy, has become a cripple who has no other recourse but to rely on foreign aid for 40 per cent of its budget and more than 50 per cent of the total value of revenue.

"If the import of surplus farm produce is delayed for some time, the dietary life of the nation is thrown into confusion, and if the aid is to be reduced by some 20 million dollars the Republic of Korea will be confronted with the aggravating political and economic instability... the Republic of Korea is being turned into a consuming market for the United States" (South Korean daily *Kyonghyang Shinmun,* Jan. 16, 1965).

South Korea's level of industrial production accounts for only 85 per cent of the insignificant level of the days of Japanese imperialist colonial rule, and the agricultural output dropped to two-thirds.

As regards the devastation of the South Korean countryside today, Ju Sok Gyun, director of the "Institute of Agricultural Affairs" in South Korea, stated:

"The rate of dependence on import of raw cotton, which was basically self-sufficient in the pre-liberation years, has been raised to 99.6 per cent (1959-1962). The Republic of Korea, an agricultural country which used to export 3 million sok of rice on an annual average in the pre-liberation years, had to import 7.8 million sok (1,090,000 tons) of grains even in the grain year of 1964, a year of bumper harvest...

"The real incomes of the nation are decreasing and the number of the unemployed is steadily increasing" (South Korean magazine *Business*, No. 8, 1964).

At present, there are 7 million unemployed and semi-unemployed in South Korea, and some 1,000,000 peasant households are running out of provisions in the lean spring months each year.

This is what the South Korean press admitted: "So far our country has been dependent mainly on the U.S. economy... The economy of the Republic of Korea today is no doubt covered with wounds all over in the true sense of the words" (South Korean daily *Kyonghang Ilbo*, Mar. 4, 1965).

The sixty thousand U.S. troops stationed in South Korea on the pretext of "mutual defense" serve the purpose of maintaining by force of arms such colonial rule of the United States in South Korea as described above. Hence, U.S. soldiers go unpunished no matter how outrageous they become, killing innocent people, robbing them of their property and committing violences in South Korea.

This shows vividly the arbitrariness of the colonial occupation army.

All these facts prove that it is quite futile for the U.S. imperialists to whitewash the South Korean puppet government as a "representative government", "a legislative government" and what not, even by usurping the sign of the United Nations.

The Pak Jung Hi regime in South Korea is nothing but a puppet dancing to the tune of its U.S. master. This is revealed glaringly also by the fact that they are eager more than anybody else to show their loyalty by dispatching troops to South Vietnam for the U.S. war of aggression at their master's request. It is not accidental that even the South Korean press subjected to strict censorship wrote; "If it concerns the United States, it is hardly distinguishable whether the government of the Republic of Korea works for the interests of the United States or for the sake of the Korean people" (South Korean daily *Chosun Ilbo*, Jan. 29, 1965).

Commenting on the miserable plight of the Pak Jung Hi clique another South Korean daily wrote; "The rulers of the Republic of Korea... have been engrossed so pitifully in studying the pleasure of the United States and its legislature (South Korean daily *Kyongje Maeil Shinmun*, Feb. 1-3, 1965).

Wayne Morse, Senator of the United States, said that "the country like South Korea is not an ally of the United States but its appendage" (New York, Oct. 11, 1965, AFP)

Such are the true colours of the Pak Jung Hi clique as the faithful lackey of U.S. imperialism.

It is the U.S. imperialists who actually rule South Korea today.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea deems it necessary that measures should be taken for the immediate withdrawal of the U.S. imperialist aggression army from South Korea so that the American imperialists may no longer behave as the colonial master there under the signboard of the United Nations.