

The visit, the newsletter reports, “was carried out under the auspices of the Al-Azhar University in Egypt, with the support of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities.” The article reports that Omran had succeeded in his mission to orchestrate among Muslims “a shift in attitudes from stiff resistance to acceptance of family planning.”

Mass brainwashing

In 1986, Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore received \$35 million in AID funds to conduct a mass media campaign designed to increase the use of contraceptives in Africa, targeting especially Muslim and Catholic populations.

A typical project funded by the university on behalf of that program was that carried out in Gambia, whose population is 90% Muslim. The project involved the scripting and producing of a radio drama called “Fakube Jarra,” which was then broadcast throughout the country. The broadcast was intended to increase the use of contraceptives.

In preparation for the broadcast, Johns Hopkins researchers interviewed 64 men and 71 women, mostly from rural areas, on the subjects they found interesting, the personal characteristics they admired in others, their special concerns, and their hopes for the future. Many of the Gambians interviewed revealed anxiety about the high cost of living, and the desire for a better water supply and better farm tools. They expressed admiration for people who are hard-working.

On the subject of birth control, several participants said that “a child is given to someone through God’s permission,” and that “God provides for all his creatures so there is no need to limit births.” Others argued that Islamic law specially prohibits artificial birth control.

The research team concluded that in the planned radio drama, “plots and discussions between characters should be built around the difficulties of farmers, the high cost of living, the low prices for crops, and the unreliability of rainfall.” Family planning users should be portrayed in the series as “husbands and wives who care for each other and their children, who work to improve their communities, and who are happy and healthy.”

The research team also concluded that the radio program had to “give convincing evidence that Islamic teaching supports the use of modern family planning.” “Messages should counter the belief that children are a gift from God,” they wrote, and should suggest instead that “God has given us family planning so we can choose to bear only those children we care for.”

The message should also be made, the team wrote, that while “the Prophet Muhammed said to have as many children as possible at a time when the world population was small,” that this no longer applies. Because Islam “forbids pregnancy during lactation,” the report claims, it should be said that “Islam supports family planning.”

Patience needed for peace in Korea

by Kathy Wolfe

North Korea was calm following the death on July 8 of President Kim Il-sung, from a heart attack suffered the day before. His eldest son, Kim Jong-il, consolidated power, with no apparent opposition, before the July 17 funeral. From July 12, Kim Jong-il took charge of receiving guests at the presidential palace wake. North Korean TV showed Defense Minister O Jin-u, Prime Minister Kang Song-san, and other senior figures at Jong-il’s side, to indicate that the political and military elite backed the succession.

“The scene verified what is now taken for granted here, that the transfer of power to the son is complete except for an official announcement,” Seoul’s Yonhap news agency said. Radio Pyongyang said on July 14 that Jong-il is “at the top helm of the party, state, and military” and will assume all three posts—Korean Workers Party chief, State President, and chairman of the party’s Central Military Commission (which controls the Armed Forces)—which Kim Il-sung held at his death.

Patience, not provocation, is needed now, to enable negotiations for the economic reconstruction of North Korea’s nuclear program and peace in Korea to resume, *EIR* Founding Editor Lyndon H. LaRouche said on July 13. The death of a chief negotiator “is never a good thing to happen at the beginning of a negotiation,” he said, since “with his successor, who is new on the job, it may be more difficult to get immediate results. This will require more patience.” President Bill Clinton and former President Jimmy Carter have done a good job so far, he noted, in avoiding the calls for war coming from Britain and cabinet members in the George Bush administration.

Indeed, London leapt at the chance to escalate tensions in Korea. Hours after Kim’s heart attack, Gerald Segal, Asia director of Britain’s International Institute for Strategic Studies, penned a wild attack on Clinton’s Korea strategy from Hongkong, in the July 8 *International Herald Tribune*. “President Bill Clinton’s . . . proclaiming a ‘breakthrough,’ while accepting nuclear proliferation, is a 20th-century version of Neville Chamberlain’s ‘peace in our time,’” Segal wrote. He predicted Kim’s death would force Kim Jong-il to use the bomb against competitors: “The prospect of a succession crisis in Pyongyang being waged with nuclear weapons must chill the bones of Northeast Asia.”

British Foreign Minister Douglas Hurd let loose at Pyon-

gyang on July 10. "North Korea cannot be allowed to go down the nuclear path, cannot be allowed to possess nuclear weapons; it is not safe," he told reporters at the Group of Seven summit in Naples. "They know perfectly well that if persuasion does not work, pressure will follow." Hurd did not say how many British troops he would commit to the Korean demilitarized zone, but his provocation was meant to open old wounds in Pyongyang from ill-advised U.S. 1993 statements—since withdrawn—that North Korea "will cease to exist" if it builds the bomb.

Summit, policy continuity

As Segal also told the *Tribune*, London's real strategy in the region is to break apart China. Otherwise, a strong China will attack the Asian rim nations, Segal has said in many articles. All this has led Beijing to declare Segal *persona non grata*, as well they might, for London would love to create a war in Korea and draw in China, and use "splendid little wars" over Hongkong or Taiwan, to also try to dismember China.

South Korea, Japan, and President Clinton, however, see the peace policy continuing in Pyongyang. Days before Kim's death, the United States announced that it will appoint Assistant Secretary of State Robert Gallucci as ambassador to Pyongyang, a sign that U.S. diplomatic recognition will follow.

Both the historic summit of North and South Korean Presidents, and the Pyongyang-Washington high-level peace talks in Geneva, postponed the day after Kim's death, are being rescheduled for the near future. "The two sides are likely to resume negotiations to try to rearrange the summit soon after Sunday's funeral of Kim Il-sung," a senior Seoul government official said on July 13 about the North-South summit, originally scheduled for July 25 in Pyongyang. "All the indications point to Kim Jong-il taking up the reins of power in the North very quickly. But a formal announcement is expected after the funeral. . . . A smooth transfer of power in the North will brighten prospects for an inter-Korean summit," he added.

Radio Pyongyang also announced on July 13 a meeting on July 18 with U.S. officials at the United Nations, to set a date to restart the Geneva talks. First Deputy Foreign Minister Kang Sok-ju, head of the North's delegation, is in Pyongyang for the funeral, but met with U.S. negotiator Gallucci before leaving Geneva, Gallucci told "Good Morning America" on July 11. Kang said that "we should expect that the policy of rapprochement pursued by President Kim Il-sung would be continued by the new government," Gallucci reported.

South Korean Prime Minister Lee Yung-dug told Seoul's parliament July 11 that the situation in the North was stable. "The North is going ahead with the funeral process as scheduled and there are no particular signs that cause worries to us militarily," he said. "The South-North dialogue aimed at bettering ties will continue although there will be a temporary halt."

"We want to talk, we want to cooperate, and we want to

work together for security, for prosperity, for stability and for ultimate unification," South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-joo told parliament on July 12. Han said the younger Kim was expected to follow foreign policies laid out by his father, and that South Korea would seek economic cooperation with North Korea.

"China's support is critical in the process of stabilizing the new North Korean regime," Han added.

"Considering China's basic policy towards the Korean Peninsula, it will predictably assist the new regime for its early settlement."

Pyongyang internationalists

The Carnegie Endowment's Selig Harrison, the first U.S. reporter in North Korea in 1972, insisted on July 12 that "there is no succession debate" in North Korea, contrary to western media assertions, but stressed that "there are different policy currents." Harrison urged the Clinton administration to continue with programs of economic cooperation to bolster the hands of those who want to open the country up to the West.

"The most important thing we can do is to send the strongest possible signals that we want to continue with the 'package deal' " for the nuclear reconstruction of the North, Harrison said. "We should encourage people such as Kim Young-sun, International Affairs chief of the Korean Workers Party, who have travelled internationally, whom I think of as the doves. They want to cooperate with the South. They are serious about this, because they want to get the goods and money from the West which North Korea needs—to stabilize the regime.

"When in March 1992, the IAEA [U.N. International Atomic Energy Agency] and the U.S., totally insensitive to the internal policy debate, upped the pressure, negotiations collapsed—because by our stupidity we gave the hawks in the military-industrial complex more credibility; we made it seem the hawks were right to be paranoid about dealing with the West.

"Note that Kim Young-sun was put in charge last month of all the negotiations with the South for the North-South summit. During the 1980s, Kim often accompanied Kim Il-sung on trips to China. Kim Young-sun was listened to by Kim Il-sung and Kim Jong-il on the opening to Carter, and he is a close adviser to Kim Jong-il now.

"Whether people who think like him carry the day depends a lot on what we do. My contacts for more than 20 years have told me that, often, when North Korea is hostile, it was because we refused to negotiate the package solution as promoted by the internationalists. Whenever we've refused to talk, we undercut their position; this strengthens the hawks. They say, 'You have been telling us for years that we'll get something out of this negotiating, and you haven't delivered the goods. We don't get anything from the West but insulting lectures.' "