

centrifugal and separatist trends” in Central Asia, *Liberation Daily* wrote. “The Russian military [has] voiced its worry about CIS [Commonwealth of Independent States] collective security, because NATO units have long ago penetrated to Russia’s border region, and through NATO’s ‘Partnership for Peace’ program, the variety and number of maneuvers in which NATO units participate on CIS territory are increasing every year. . . . How should the CIS members concerned, especially Russia, deal with this? This is a question of great concern to military observers.”

On May 17, *Peoples’ Daily* said of the NATO war: “in essence [it] is a new form of colonialism,” and likened it to

the invasion of China by the Eight-Power Allied Forces 100 years ago. China’s ultimate concern is an attempted repeat of that invasion.

Geopolitics started wars

Most inflammatory, in Chinese perception, is the open intent among some American circles, to make *Japan* the Asian bulwark of an explicitly anti-China military alliance. This concern has a long history.

During the first half of this century, Japan and China were repeatedly pitted against each other in brutal wars, as Germany and Russia were repeatedly set up to destroy each other

Nakasone: North Korea needs China-style reform

The following is excerpted from a commentary by former Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, which was published in the International Herald Tribune on Aug. 21.

“There is growing opinion in the United States and Japan in favor of shifting to a hard-line policy toward North Korea,” in reaction to Pyongyang’s “alleged nuclear arms program” and expected ballistic missile launch, wrote Nakasone. “This view is supported in the United States by, among others, Sen. Jesse Helms. . . . In Japan, some members of the LDP, the Liberal Party, and the Democratic Party are preparing a bill to suspend the considerable remittances to North Korea from Japan. These hard-liners criticize the weak negotiating stance of the free world. . . .

“While in the past I have maintained some degree of sympathy” for North Korean policy, “the situation cannot continue. It is time for the free world to make clear that it finally has an uncompromising collective determination to deal firmly with North Korea’s blackmail diplomacy.”

If Pyongyang launches its Taepodong-2 missile, the issue should go to the United Nations for further economic sanctions, Nakasone continued. “We are effectively back to where we started in 1994 when North Korea declared its intention to break away from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.” Now, after the India-Pakistan tests, North Korea must end its nuclear program.

However, the international community must also show equal determination to help North Korea succeed “if it cooperates with the rest of the world and opens up.” Expressing sympathy for the condition of the North Korean population, Nakasone wrote, “In the long term, that plight can only be alleviated by giving Pyongyang a chance to abandon its seclusionist policy and join the international community.



Former Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone

“To that end, China, Japan, and the United States should agree to request jointly that North Korea adopt Deng Xiaoping-style economic reforms. If North Korea accepts and seeks collaboration with the international community, these three countries should then offer further cooperation.

“In the final analysis, it is up to the two Koreas themselves to resolve in a responsible manner the problems of the peninsula they share. The South Korean President, Kim Dae-jung, evinces a broad-minded and tolerant policy toward North Korea, even though it remains bent on achieving an equal economic and political standing with, if not superiority over, its rival.

“To move beyond this impasse, a North-South summit should be convened to reconfirm their 1991 North-South ‘non-nuclear declaration’ ” and discuss mutual inspections.

“North Korea may well demand the withdrawal of U.S. troops from the peninsula and the replacement of the armistice accord among itself, China, and UN forces, with a peace treaty. The achievement of such a treaty would pave the way for a process of unifying Korea as a vital member of the Asia-Pacific region.”