

with China's concern over Japan's possible support for the recently increasing U.S. confrontational approach toward China. At the Asian-African Summit, Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi issued a "heartfelt apology" for the wartime actions, and held a private meeting with Chinese President Hu Jintao, arranging for a series of follow-up meetings between officials. Those factions, in both countries, which see the urgency of united actions for development in the current global crisis, took the lead. (See accompanying article.)

Similarly, with the tensions on the Korean peninsula increasing, as the Bush Administration has attempted to force South Korea to accept U.S. dictates and insults to the North (including even the issuance of contingency plans for war), the leaders of North and South Korea used the opportunity of the New Bandung Spirit to hold two meetings in Indonesia—the first since 2000. South Korean Prime Minister Lee Hae-chan met briefly on April 22 with North Korea's official head of state, Kim Yong Nam, to discuss joint efforts to preserve ancient Korean historical sites and to unite to counter Japanese claims on the islets. A second meeting was held on April 23 to discuss the stalled six-party talks.

The only explicitly political complaint agreed to by all participants in the final Declaration was in regard to Palestine. Representing the sentiment of over three-fourths of the world's populations, it stated: "We express our abhorrence that, fifty years since the 1955 Bandung Conference, the Palestinian people remain deprived of their right to independence."

## Economic Defense

There were also discussions of "south-south" economic cooperation. The emerging role of China as a foreign investor in developing nations was evident, as China is trying to find useful things to do with its huge dollar reserves. President Hu Jintao stayed over in Indonesia for a two-day state visit following the Bandung Conference, signing a declaration for a "strategic partnership" between the two nations. This includes plans to triple trade within three years, to \$20 billion, and infrastructure investments of \$300 million. Indonesian Economics Minister Aburizal Bakrie reported before the Conference that China planned to invest \$10 billion in Indonesia over the coming years.

This Chinese-Indonesian agreement follows the similar, but even more historic, accords between India and China during a summit in New Delhi on April 9-12.

President Hu will be travelling to the Philippines after his Indonesian visit, where investment contracts worth \$1.5 billion will be signed, including the construction of a power plant, rail development north and south of Manila, and oil exploration off the Palawan Islands.

Asian and African leaders pledged to vastly increase trade and development between the two continents, as a means of countering the impact of globalization.

# Japan-China Relations Need 'New Westphalia'

by Kathy Wolfe

Saner heads in Japan and China acted to cool tensions April 22-24 during the Bandung Asian-African Summit in Jakarta, with an eye to the goal of Eurasian-wide economic development. Chinese President Hu Jintao held his first head of state meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi. Koizumi, after a drubbing by pro-Asian diplomats in Tokyo, issued an apology for World War II in his conference speech. "In the past, Japan, through its colonial rule and aggression, caused tremendous damage and suffering to the people of many countries," Koizumi said. "With deep remorse and heartfelt apology always engraved in mind, Japan . . . again states its resolve to contribute to world peace and prosperity in future."

China's government, calling for calm, managed to cool anti-Japanese demonstrations April 23-24, in contrast to the previous two weekends, in which hundreds of thousands of Chinese smashed Japanese Embassy, business, and other property in a dozen cities across China. They protested Tokyo's recent publishing permission for a Japanese textbook—whose last edition approved in 2001 was adopted by fewer than 1% of schools—which calls the 1937 rape of Nanjing an "incident." China reports that 300,000 were butchered.

"No one condones lawless violence," a Korean diplomat told *EIR*, criticizing the serious beatings of Japanese college students in Shanghai and elsewhere, "but all Asian nations are concerned about American efforts to push Japan into an anti-China attitude."

Indeed, Hu and Koizumi's approach contrasted with U.S. threats during the Bandung conference. Following the dangerous collapse of talks with North Korea, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice threatened on April 20 that if Pyongyang did not surrender arms unilaterally, she would haul them before the UN Security Council or take "other measures" such as embargo or worse. Her State Department greeted the opening of Bandung by sending an "emergency warning" on April 22 to Beijing, Seoul, and Tokyo, that North Korea may be about to test a nuclear bomb.

The root of Japan's frictions with China, Korea, and other neighbors, is in Washington. Sudden flaring of Asian tension is especially suspicious, just after Koizumi and the central banks of China, South Korea, India, and Russia all warned in March that the dollar cannot long continue as the world reserve currency, if the United States does not change its economic and financial policies.