

US—The Empire of Terrorism

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- **A Terrorist State at the Very Source**
- **The Author of Terrorism on
the Korean Peninsula**
- **The Boss of International Terrorism**

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In 2002 Kim Chol Myong, fellow at the south Korean Institute of Modern Political History, published an article entitled “US– The Empire of Terrorism”.

Quoting Rebert Jenson, a US peace campaigner, as saying that terrorism was an apt expression for the indiscriminate violence perpetrated by the US government against civilians of the Third World, the author wrote that indiscriminate violence against civilians itself is terrorism beyond its conventional concept.

The editorial board publishes the author’s article in various languages.

Editorial Board

More than six months have passed since the September 11 attack on the nerve-centre of the “Empire of Evil”, the United States. In the meantime, the United States has staged a terrorist war in Afghanistan under the slogan of “anti-terrorism”, which was basically a barbaric war of aggression that killed numerous civilians and destroyed huge quantities of material wealth.

In blatant defiance of a furious outcry on the part of conscientious people the world over, the US has gone even further, crying hoarse about an “Axis of Evil” in order to precipitate a second war, and declaring its readiness to stage a pre-emptive nuclear attack. Its prime target now is the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, the “foremost anti-US bulwark”, which towers impregnable in the hinterland of the Asia-Pacific region—a region that is crucial to the US’s world strategy.

Generally speaking, terrorism is characterized by barbaric slaughter and outrages undertaken by reactionary forces against progressive peoples. It is the backbone and mode of survival of the US, which is an aggressive and predatory nation by nature.

A Terrorist State at the Very Source

In its very origin, the US was a terrorist state. It was founded and expanded by means of terrorism, which has since always gone hand-in-hand with US policy, like a twin brother.

First, the US emerged as a nation above the sea of blood of indigenous Indians and expanded ten-fold in westward wars of conquest. Sabre-rattling colonizers swarmed to the American continent with the Cross round their necks and staged as many as 8,900 witch-hunting wars against the native Indians, offering up to 100 pounds as reward for each Indian scalp. As a result, the nearly 10 million—strong aboriginal population was exterminated. The colonizers then recruited 20 million Africans as slave labour by illegal and forceful means such as kidnapping and trafficking. The rabidly terrorist streak in them was next evident in the wars they waged for territorial aggrandizement. After igniting these wars, they marched in large numbers and with overwhelming force into the fertile western regions across the Alleghenies and conquered them.

The states of Texas, California, Arizona, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming and Colorado of the present-day US, for instance, with a total area of 2.5

million square kilometres, had belonged to Mexico until the mid-19th century. As the first step towards conquering this vast territory, the Yankees sent into Texas mercenaries disguised as immigrants, who proceeded to forcibly declare independence for the region, claiming that “Texas belongs to the US from now on.” When the Mexican people put up armed resistance, the US alleged that Mexico had started a war, and used this as an excuse to send in invading armies, conquering half of the Mexican territory in two years.

The US’s history of nation-building is also scarred by numerous sanguinary wars to seize the spoils of other foreign aggressors. Louisiana, an area rich in grains and oil deposits was snatched from French conquerors, and Florida and Oregon from the Spanish. In the heat of their westward expansion, the Yankees also seized Hawaii in the Pacific Ocean in April 1898, in a second encounter with Spain.

The 50 stars in the Stars and Stripes, the US flag, are symbols of the disgraceful history of US terrorism: each of them signifies a conquest of territory made by committing outrages and atrocities against other countries.

Second, the US is guilty of committing terrorist acts against the black population in an extremely organized and persistent manner.

From the very beginning, the white colonizers treated the blacks as “chattel”, habitually trafficking in them, and torturing and killing them. A decision to abolish apartheid was adopted in 1954 but it proved to be little more than a scrap of paper. In April 1968, the US administration organized the assassination of Martin Luther King, a black Baptist leader who advocated freedom and equality of the blacks. Enraged by this, the blacks rose in a revolt that swept across 46 cities simultaneously. It was an act in self-defence. However, the administration retaliated by going on a spree of white terror, mobilizing 55,000 troops and police, tanks and aircraft against the blacks.

Innumerable terrorist acts against the blacks and civil rights leaders were reported between 1961 and 1966. Black survivors of white hooliganism and terror are now confined to Detroit, Appalachia and the delta of southern Mississippi, where they live a dispirited life. For fear of racist terrorism, the 22 million black population hesitate to go to schools, theatres, restaurants and even public lavatories, or to take buses.

The racists have formed different kinds of terrorist and gangster organizations, bent on government-sponsored repression of the blacks and

the working people. There are some 1,800 such groups, including the Ku Klux Klan and the John Birch Society, which indiscriminately arrest, torture, lynch and murder innocent people with official backing. Small wonder, then, that the writer Mark Twain labelled the US as the “United States of Lynching.”

Besides these organizations with nationwide networks, the US is riddled with private terrorist groups run by monopoly businesses to crack down on blacks and workers. For instance, the personnel department of Ford Corporation employs numerous secret agents, mostly boxers, gangsters and ex-murderers or robbers, who spy on the blacks and wield weapons to lynch and murder them. The white tycoons net around 3 billion dollars in annual profits through terrorist binges against the 6 million black workers.

Third, the US is a lawless entity rife with all kinds of terrorism such as assassinations, bomb explosions, random firing of weapons, kidnapping and hostage-taking.

A case in point is the assassinations of US Presidents. The 16th President Abraham Lincoln, the 25th President William McKinley, the 35th President John F. Kennedy and Senator Robert F. Kennedy, a Democratic candidate for presidency, all fell prey to assassins, and there was an aborted attempt on the life of President Ronald Reagan. These facts point to the US as a nation with a profile of special-calibre terrorism: not even the round-the-clock security system that is in place for the chief executive of the country has been sufficient to prevent such terrorism. The fact that so many Presidents have been victims has no parallel in any other country.

In April 1995, an explosion demolished the Federal Office of Oklahoma City, causing 300 casualties, and the investigation laid the blame on a US ultra-right group. Other explosions, such as that in a TWA airliner in July 1996 with 230 casualties, and in a park at the venue of the Atlanta Olympic Games, give further glimpses of the ingrained terrorism within the US.

How can the US attack other nations as “countries of evil” or “terrorist nations” when it cannot cover up its own evils and the acts of terrorism within its borders? In imitation of the September 11 terrorist attack, a teenager crashed a mini-plane into a building. Primary and high school students are known to have rushed into classrooms with weapons and opened fire on their classmates, and girl-students are afraid to walk alone around the campus because of the rampant violence. Masked gangsters frequently rob banks and shops. Abduction of children and contracted

terrorism for gaining money and property are commonplace. Kidnapping and hostage-taking are commonly used as levers for escape. Killings and acts of revenge through bomb explosions continue in a vicious circle. Such a country is nothing if not a terrorist state.

The problem is that all these forms of terrorism are effectively promoted by the American mass media, by newspapers, magazines, books, television and broadcasting networks. According to the US magazine *Fortune*, American TV viewers in the last decades of the 20th century saw on average 221 cases of murder, 1,192 cases of attempted murder and other horrible crimes every week. In this den of terrorism, a murder occurs every seven minutes and the annual growth rate of violent crimes is 12.6 per cent, surpassing that of population growth.

The US policy of terrorism has been expressed in an unprecedentedly outrageous manner after the Bush administration took office.

A case in point is the recent anthrax episode that sparked off universal fear and apprehension among the public. The administration described the anthrax scare that had taken a toll of several lives as a “second surprise attack on the US by foreign terrorists.” It was soon discovered, however, that it was a homegrown drama. Experts at the Disease Control Centre in Atlanta, Georgia, confirmed that the anthrax germs in circulation in the US were from the US Defence Research Institute. *Green Peace Magazine*, published by the environmental watchdog group of the same name, hit the nail on the head when it said that the anthrax scare was aimed to pump up the states’ budget for bio-chemical weapons.

The White House lives up to its stature as the mastermind of terrorism, with the Pentagon and the CIA serving as the executor and the munitions monopolies as the producer of terrorist weapons.

The Author of Terrorism on the Korean Peninsula

The profile of the United States as an empire of terrorism has been patently manifest in its policy towards and actions on the Korean peninsula.

First, the US resorted to sheer terrorism against civilians in south Korea in the years between Korea's liberation from Japanese military rule on August 15, 1945, and the outbreak of the Korean war on June 25, 1950.

The US had long harboured designs on Korea, a gateway to the Asian continent and a military bridgehead. On September 8, 1945, Douglas MacArthur issued Decree No. 1 declaring military rule in south Korea, of a kind that is only applicable to a vanquished nation. John Hodge, Commander of US forces in south Korea, made public another decree which said that the military government would punish all those who disobeyed its orders or slandered it. The stage was thus set for forcible dissolution of the people's committees that had been set up by the people's will, and for the assassination of patriotic individuals who favoured reunification.

Ryo Un Hyong¹, a pro-communist, was murdered in downtown Seoul in broad daylight on July 19, 1947, and Kim Ku², a politician who had made a dramatic shift from anti-communism to alliance with communism, was assassinated on June 26, 1949. The stringpuller was none other than the United States.

In May 1946, more than 2,000 citizens of Seoul were massacred in the so-called "Jongphan Press forgery case"³, and in August the same year a brutal crackdown was staged on students from 50-odd universities and colleges during their protest action against educational reform on the lines of colonial enslavement. In August, again, hundreds of workers from the Hwasun Coal Mine, who were on their way to Kwangju to attend a mass rally in celebration of the first anniversary of Korea's liberation, were killed in ambush by US bombers and tanks, and some 700 farmers on Hui Island were slain in August 1946 during a demonstration for democracy and right to subsistence in protest against imposition of heavy burdens of farm rent. In September 1946, a 1.1 million-strong general strike was crushed with horrifying bloodshed. Tens of thousands of patriots and civilians were imprisoned or executed in the October 1946 Popular Uprising started in Taegu. During the April 3, 1948 carnage on Jeju Island⁴, 295 villages were torched and 70,000 people disposed of. On the eve of the May 10, 1948 separate election, 50,425 people were thrown behind bars and some 500 were murdered on the election day alone. In the October 1948 Ryosu Rebellion⁵, 6,000 civilians were slaughtered in cold blood.

These are only a few instances of US heavy-handedness. Endless attacks by the US resulted in the death of a total of 1 million south Koreans between September 1945 and June 25, 1950. Even *The New York Times*, in March 1950, deplored the fact that terrorism with no parallel in the world was holding sway in many parts of south Korea.

Second, the United States acted as a heinous terrorist against civilians in the north and south of Korea during the three-year-long Korean war.

The international law on war prohibits attacks on and slaughter of civilians and stipulates strict protection of their lives. Nevertheless, during a landing operation at Inchon, the US Eighth Army Commander Walker ordered his soldiers: "Don't let your hands tremble even before children or old people. Kill mercilessly!"

In a single year, starting from the summer of 1950, US troops put to death more than 1 million civilians in south Korea, a figure larger than the casualties in an average war.

In Kwangju, a mass grave was discovered of 3,000 children shot by American dum-dum bullets (*The New York Times*, September 24, 1950).

At Rogun-ri, Yongdong County, North Chungchong Province, over 400 civilians were murdered by bombers and machine-guns. On August 22, 1950, well over 100 villagers of Ryongdok Subcounty, Uiryong County, South Kyongsang Province, were bombed to death, and on January 20, 1951, 300 local people and refugees in Yongchun Subcounty, Tanyang County, North Chungchong Province, who had been taking shelter in a cave, suffered the same fate.

US attacks against civilians in south Korea claimed 30,000 lives in Chunchon, 2,000 each in Puyo and Chongju, 2,060 in Chungju, 8,644 in Taejon, 4,000 in Jonju, 400 each in Kunsan and Anyang, 800 in Thongyong, 600 each in Kongju and Phyongthaek, 57,200 in Inchon, 500 in Ansong, 158 in Jochiwon and 72,390 in Seoul (*Korea-US Relationship: 30 Years*, 1976 ed, pp. 202-203).

Throughout the Korean war, millions of south Korean civilians thus fell victim to military terrorism.

The atrocities perpetrated by US forces during their temporary occupation of north Korea were unprecedented in their methods and scale.

Their deadly rampages took a toll of 35,383 civilian lives in Sinchon County or one-fourth of its population in 50 days of their occupation of the county, 19,072 in Anak, 5,545 in Songhwa, 13,000 in Unryul, 5,290 in Phyongsan, 6,000 in Haeju, 15,000 in Pyongyang, 1,511 in Nampho, 1,561

in Kangso, 5,000 in Anju, 1,342 in Kaechon and 1,400 in Pakchon (*Traces of US Forces in Korea*, 1989 ed, p. 103).

The methods employed were horrible and varied: shooting, suffocating by poisonous gas, hog-tying before drowning, burying alive, burning to death, throwing down into mine pits, tearing the body limb from limb using ox-carts, sawing off faces, hammering nails or clamp irons into the forehead, gouging out eyes, cutting off ears and noses, hacking off women's breasts, disembowelling pregnant women, trampling foetuses and driving pointed sticks into vital parts.

The list of US war crimes included bio-chemical warfare conducted in Korea. On board the vessel *1091*, specially designed for experimental germ warfare, which was anchored off Koje Island, a daily average of 3,000 experiments were carried out on POWs of the Korean People's Army.

Third, even after the war, the US has resorted to military coups and massacre of civilians in a desperate bid to sustain its colonial rule over south Korea.

In May 1964, Allen Dulles, former Director of the CIA, testified on TV that the CIA's masterstroke in its overseas activities during his tenure was the May 16 military coup (*Spies from America*, 1965 ed). By means of the coup in 1961, the US removed the Chang Myon regime, which was tottering on the verge of collapse, in order to tide over the crisis of its colonial rule.

In a crackdown against the May 18, 1980 Kwangju Uprising that flooded the city in streams of blood and covered Mudung Hill with heaps of corpses in its aftermath, helicopters of the US Eighth Army swooped down over Kwangju in waves, in a promiscuous strafing mission which was targeted at crowded places (*Sekai*, August 1980).

Zbigniew Brzezinski, the then National Security Advisor to President Jimmy Carter, ordered "suppression of the Kwangju rioters with an iron hand"; in response, Wickham, commander of the US forces in south Korea, who was in direct charge of the heavy-handed crackdown, led a huge force into the city under his command, a force that included the Jong Ho Yong-led special task force and the Pak Jun Byong-led 20th division.

The city instantly underwent a blood bath that left a "host of deadly ghosts" in its wake. In just ten days, over 5,000 citizens were massacred and 14,000 heavily wounded.

The truth allows no room for the evasive semantics or fraudulent word-play.

The US was the supplier of the teargas, a compound of carbonate and sulphate, that was used to suppress the anti-government movement of south Koreans during the Korean war and in the postwar period. In 1994, for instance, it sold a large number of teargas canisters to south Korea. The teargas, akin to potassium cyanide, claimed many lives, including Ri Han Ryol, student of Yonsei University and Ri Sok Kyu, worker of Daewoo shipyard. Between March 1989 and June 1994, its victims numbered 7,000, including 500 heavily wounded.

American hands are irrevocably stained with the blood shed by Korean patriots; their bodies are smeared with the blood of numerous ordinary Koreans, who were slaughtered by dum-dum bullets, germ bombs and poisonous gas. Robert Jensen, a US peace campaigner, commented that terrorism was an apt expression for the indiscriminate violence perpetrated by the US government against civilians of the Third World.

The current Bush administration is now plotting to launch a nuclear attack against north Korea, branding it as part of the “Axis of Evil”.

The US atrocities against Korean civilians prove that the US is the kingpin of both state and military terrorism.

The Boss of International Terrorism

US foreign policy is characterized by state terrorism and military terrorism.

First, the US has incessantly used assassinations, military coups and armed invasions to overthrow and dominate the governments of independent, developing countries.

Obsessed by the desire for global hegemony in the aftermath of World War II, the US focussed on international terrorism as a lever to wipe out national liberation movements and cut off newly independent nations from the anti-imperialist front.

Assassination of foreign leaders is a principal method employed by the US in its agenda of international terrorism. When the progressive Lumumba-led government was established in the Democratic Republic of Congo in 1960, the US saw it as an obstacle to its strategy of world domination and killed him in an armed attack under the cover of

“maintenance of order”. In another instance, when Allende won the presidential election in Chile in September 1970 and thereafter adopted a socialist line the US instigated Pinochet to slay him and restore a pro-US military junta in September 1973. It also conspired to assassinate the independent-minded President Samora Moises Machel of Mozambique by staging a mid-air explosion of his plane. In April 1986, the US sent out 60-odd warplanes to bomb the residence of Libyan leader Muammar al-Gaddafi and several other places, leaving his daughter dead. It has also persisted in its attempts to assassinate Fidel Castro and other Cuban leaders. The assassinations of prominent leaders of Cyprus and Chile that shocked the world were the result of underhand moves by ex-Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, the famed “strategist of diplomacy”, as was disclosed by the recent declassification of diplomatic documents. The list is endless.

The military coup is a stock-in-trade of the US in its strategy of attaining world supremacy.

In the four decades following World War II, the US has masterminded some 100 coups—30 of them in the Latin American countries of Peru, Ecuador, Guatemala, Dominica and Brazil. These include the coup that toppled the Goulart-led government of Brazil in 1964, the sole reason for which was its diplomatic relations with Cuba, and the one that overthrew the independent government of Ghana during the President’s visit to foreign countries in 1966.

There have also been many abortive coups in Cambodia, Syria, Tanzania, Egypt and other developing countries.

A more direct method of international terrorism employed by the US is armed invasion of independent-minded countries.

Military inroads by the US into developing nations from the end of World War II to early 1991 numbered 185.

To cite just some of these:

A 90,000-strong US force was involved in an operation to suppress the national-liberation movement in the Philippines between 1948 and 1953.

In April 1961, US bombers pounded Havana, the capital, and several other places in Cuba, and US mercenaries staged an armed provocation at Playa Giron.

A blockade by the US navy sparked off the Caribbean crisis in October 1962.

Between 1964 and 1973, Laos was invaded by 50,000 US troops, 2,500 warplanes and 40 warships.

In 1964, 20,000 US troops were sent forth in a campaign to crush a movement of the people of Panama demanding return of control over the Panama Canal.

In April 1965, a revolutionary movement of the Dominican people was suppressed in a joint operation of 38,000 US troops, several hundred aircraft and close to 40 warships.

Between 1961 and 1973, a 500,000-strong US force was engaged in the war against Vietnam.

In May 1970, the invasion of Cambodia was undertaken by 30,000 US troops, 500 planes and 40 warships.

In 1982 and 1983, 1,600 US Marines landed in Lebanon under the guise of a “peacekeeping force”.

In October 1983, 15,000 American GIs overran Grenada under the pretext of “instability” in that country and “protection of American lives”.

In April 1986, 60-odd US bombers ripped Libya apart.

In December 1989, a 22,000-strong US force pounced upon Panama.

All these were terrorist wars, as evidenced by the fact that the warfare was conducted from three fronts: the numerical strength of the forces and weapons involved were of an enormous scale; the attacks were justified in terms of the gangster logic of “instability”, “protection of American lives” and “menace to US security”; the bombings were indiscriminate, regardless of national capitals and residences of heads of state, with repeated incursions into a particular country if thought necessary.

Let us look at a few more examples of US terrorism.

In the spring of 1986, a bomb was detonated at a discotheque in West Berlin, leaving a GI killed and 60 wounded. The investigation disclosed that it was a US set-up, to be used as an excuse to attack Libya.

In December 1989, the US marched into Panama under the pretext of “protection of US nationals” and “defence of democracy”, slaughtering civilians and razing towns and villages to the ground. It captured the resistant General Manuel Noriega and sentenced him to 40 years in prison on a charge of “drug trafficking”.

The US is a rogue nation that commits acts of arbitrary terrorism against countries advocating equality or sovereignty. It manipulated the mid-air explosion of a Cuban airliner in 1976 and the hijacking of an Egyptian airliner in 1985. A bomb blast in Beirut that killed 80 women and children

and wounded 250 was a brainchild of Donald Rumsfeld, the present Defence Secretary of the US, who, as the Middle East envoy in those days, masterminded the planting of a high-powered bomb in a mosque on the outskirts of Beirut, making sure that it detonated when the place of worship was crowded with people.

The horrifying slaughters undertaken in Bangladesh and East Timor were at the instance of ex-Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, as was recently revealed by a declassified diplomatic document. In a ghastly show of arrogance, on May 8, 1999, US warplanes fired three missiles at the Chinese embassy in Serbia and Montenegro, causing scores of casualties and destroying the two-storeyed building. This flagrant encroachment upon a sovereign state was then dismissed as an “error of the map” and a “mistake”.

The US, being devoid of any sense of international justice and fair play and desperate to bring the UN and international law under its control, is a terrorist state true to type.

Second, the US has frequently taken recourse to force of arms in a frantic bid to dominate recalcitrant countries and countries of key strategic importance for reasons of regional hegemony and economic profit.

Typical examples are the Gulf War of 1991, the air raids on Serbia and Montenegro in 1999 and the recent war in Afghanistan.

In the early morning of January 17, 1991, the US unleashed the Gulf War against Iraq, which saw the mobilization of 450,000 military personnel, 1,300 fighter planes, 1,500 helicopter gunships, 1,000-odd tanks and 2,000 armoured vehicles. In the first 26 days of the 43-day war, all civilian facilities, economic, cultural and religious, were pounded by promiscuous bombing; 20,000 civilians were killed, 60,000 wounded, and economic losses worth 200 billion dollars were incurred.

In the 78-day-long Balkan War by the US-led NATO, 900 fighter-bombers flew a total 20,000 sorties in 60 days, more than 2,000 cruise missiles were fired and over 10,000 tons of bombs dropped. As a result, 1,300 civilians were killed, 6,000 wounded and 300 schools and 115 healthcare facilities devastated.

In the recent and continuing war in Afghanistan, the US employed BLU 82 bombs, a conventional bomb next only to the tactical nuclear bomb in power. As of November 11, 2001, the figure of civilian casualties stood at 2,000.

If these weapons of mass destruction had been employed by any other country, the US would have been the first to come out against it, raising a hue and cry. What a heinous “Empire of Evil” it is, indeed!

Military commentators agree that the above three wars were typical terrorist wars launched by reactionary forces of domination against civilians. All of them were multi-purpose wars, meant to gain regional influence and economic profit, apart from their military intent.

The US seeks to unseat the fractious government of Saddam Hussein and dominate Iraq in pursuit of control over that country’s abundant oil resources and for military-political supremacy in the region.

Afghanistan and Central Asia are another region of strategic importance and a major area of natural resources, on which the US has cast a covetous eye. Holding sway over the region will enable the US to hold the rear of Russia and China, secure a bridgehead for inroads into Southwest Asia and enjoy a dominant position over the rich oil deposits in this region including the Caspian Sea. This is why it seeks a permanent presence of its forces now stationed in Afghanistan and neighbouring countries, on a number of pretexts. The Balkan War too, though veiled in the disguise of “regional stability”, was a terrorist war designed to demonstrate the might of the US as the only superpower and tighten its control over the region.

Third, the US is a sponsor of terrorism and patronizes international terrorists.

It has already earmarked 5 million dollars to assist in the rule of Iraq after the removal of Saddam Hussein. These funds, as distinct from the aid of 4 million dollars supplied to the “National Congress”, the anti-government force in Iraq, have been allocated to the Washington-based Middle East Institute, one of whose sponsors is Edward Walker, ex-Assistant Secretary of State. These funds in aid of terrorism are reportedly geared to supporting a military coup from within Iraq rather than overthrow of its government by those in exile. This fact is a far cry from the habitual US claim that financial channels that provide aid to terrorism should be blocked.

The US also continues to support the separatists of Chechnya and denounce Russia’s measures of self-defence, even after it has been confirmed that international terrorists are active there.

Recently, in a move rightly seen as tacit approval of Israel’s killing spree, the US was the sole world power to exercise a veto against the UN

Security Council resolution on dispatching an international observer group to Palestine.

At the same time, within the US itself, terrorists named or indicted by several countries continue to operate under official protection. Those who were engaged in terrorism, subversion and sabotage against Cuba are living in Florida under the wings of the government.

Hector, ex-Defence Minister of Guatemala, who was indicted on a charge of slaughter and assassination of thousands of innocent people, has not only taken up his abode in the US but has been awarded the highest academic degree by the Kennedy Policy Institute of Harvard University. Some others in a similar category are Armando Lareus, who killed hundreds of civilians as a secret service agent during the rule of Pinochet in Chile, Gorzi Azak, a notorious terrorist of Argentina, and leaders of “death squads” that killed thousands in El Salvador.

It was recently disclosed that Osama bin Laden, targeted by the US as the “boss of terrorism”, had had a long-standing relationship with the Bush family. The bankrupt Enron Corporation not only provided President Bush with election funds but also used 400 million dollars of slush funds as bargaining money to win a contract for laying an oil pipeline after the advent of the Taliban regime in Afghanistan, supplying the bulk of the kickbacks to the Taliban leaders. The US, which had illicit financial dealings with the Taliban, is now painting it as the “devil”. The conclusion from this is only too obvious.

The US, even as it randomly designates other nations as “state sponsors of terrorism”, is guilty of numerous crimes of backing terrorism.

The American newspaper, *Baltimore Sun*, has described the US as the world’s greatest sponsor of terrorism, and John Fielder, a US peace campaigner, has commented that US fundamentalism is the most important source of global terrorism. The state terrorism or military terrorism of the US is “imperialistic terrorism for hegemony”.

The US has 250,000 of its military personnel stationed in 141 countries and 20,000 nuclear warheads at its disposal. These are at potential and constant risk of being used as a means of terrorism to enable its “strategy of expansion”.

As a man sows, so shall he reap. The US must plead guilty to terrorism and put a lid on its terrorist activities without any further delay.

Notes

1 Ryo Un Hyong (April 22, 1886–July 19, 1947)—a patriotic-minded figure. He was received by Kim Il Sung on three occasions in 1946 when he came to the northern part of Korea. He fought for the national reunification until he was assassinated at the rotary of Hyehwa-dong, Seoul, by a gangster at the instigation of the US military administration.

2 Kim Ku (July 11, 1876–June 26, 1949)—a nationalist. At the invitation of Kim Il Sung, he participated in the Joint Conference of Representatives of Political Parties and Public Organizations in North and South Korea, held in Pyongyang in April 1948, and later fought devotedly for the reunification of the country before being assassinated by the US imperialists and Syngman Rhee puppet clique.

3 “Jongphan Press forgery case”—a case masterminded by the US army after its occupation of south Korea following Korea’s liberation on August 15, 1945, in order to outlaw the Communist Party and suppress the democratic forces. In May 1946 the US invented preposterous lies that Jongphan Press (printing shop of the organ of the Communist Party) forged notes, and arrested many communists and sentenced them to death.

4 Carnage on Jeju Island—The people on Jeju Island rose up in anti-US national salvation struggle on April 3, 1948, in opposition to the May 10 separate elections fabricated by the US. In order to suppress the struggle the US set up the “Jeju Island Emergency Guard Headquarters” and mobilized the troops to burn down 295 villages, over a half the villages on the island, and kill 70,000 people mercilessly.

5 Ryosu Rebellion—On October 19, 1948, the US and Syngman Rhee puppet clique ordered the soldiers of the 14th Regiment of the south Korean army stationed in Ryosu to suppress the patriotic struggle of the people on Jeju Island. Enraged at this, the soldiers rejected the order and rose in revolt, joined by the citizens in Ryosu and the soldiers of the 6th Regiment in Taegu and the 5th Regiment in Raju. Alarmed by the rebellion gaining ground on a mass scale, the US army and its lackeys declared martial law in this area and slaughtered the rebels with recourse to airplanes, artillery and armoured corps.