

## Security Council Meets on Korea

The United Nations Security Council is currently meeting on the situation in Korea. Yahoo! News is carrying this Associated Press story on the meeting. ( [http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/as\\_koreas\\_clash](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/as_koreas_clash) ).

*A Russian draft presidential statement circulated to Security Council members and obtained by The Associated Press stresses the need for efforts "to ensure a de-escalation of tension" between the two Koreas and a "resumption of dialogue and resolution of all problems dividing them exclusively through peaceful diplomatic means."*

*It asks [Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon](#) to immediately send an envoy to both countries "to consult on urgent measures to settle peacefully the current crisis situation in the Korean Peninsula."*

*The council began meeting behind closed doors shortly after 11 a.m. EST (1600 GMT) and heard a briefing from U.N. political chief B. Lynn Pascoe on the situation in the Koreas.*

*The diplomat said most council members want a statement that condemns North Korea for the Nov. 23 shelling of Yeonpyeong Island and the March 26 sinking of the South Korean warship Cheonan, which killed 46 sailors and was blamed on a North Korean torpedo. But Russia and China just want the statement to urge calm and appoint an envoy, which most council members view as unfairly equating the actions of the two Koreas, the diplomat said.*

*According to South Korea's Yonhap news agency, North Korea has raised military readiness of its artillery unit along the west coast.*

*It cited an unidentified South Korean government official who was also quoted as saying some [fighter jets](#) that had been inside the air force hangar in the west coast also came out to the ground.*

Please read the entire article for more important information.

**Analysis.** This explains the situation to a "T". Most of the World understands that the sinking of the Cheonan and the firing on YP Do are acts that should be condemned. But neither Russia nor the People's Republic of China (PRC) are ready to deal with the refugee problem that will come with either in implosion or an explosion in North Korea. That is why they continue to protect North Korea to protect themselves.

It would appear from the last two paragraphs in the article that North Korea is prepared to respond to the artillery exercise on YP Do and that it will happen today. I can tell you from personal experience that right now pretty much all of the armed forces in South Korea, and probably North Korea, are "locked and loaded". While non-combatant Evacuation Operations (NEO) have apparently not been officially ordered, I suspect that the word has been passed for non-combatants to be ready to move on short notice. The same is true of those units tasked to reinforce Korea. They may not be sitting on their mobility bags, but they are most likely on telephone alert.

Earlier this morning 10:26 Beijing time, this statement appeared in the People's Daily.

(<http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/90001/90776/90883/7235127.html> ).

*Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Zhang Zhijun said Saturday that China is deeply worried about the situation on the Korean Peninsula, which is extremely precarious, highly complicated and sensitive.*

*Zhang made the remarks in a statement on China's stance on the situation.*

*He said China had repeatedly told the parties that if blood were shed on the Korean Peninsula, the peoples on the two sides of the peninsula would be the first to suffer.*

*Zhang said bloodshed and conflict would lead to the national tragedy of fratricide among compatriots and brothers of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and the Republic of Korea (ROK), harm regional peace and stability, and affect neighboring countries.*

*China had made unremitting efforts with the DPRK, the ROK and other parties through various channels to avoid escalation of the situation, he said.*

The PRC is screaming at the top of its lungs to stop the spiral towards war. It appears that nobody is listening. I believe this means that diplomatic efforts to stop this have failed and will continue to fail. South Korea is not paying attention to a country that will not even condemn the bad acts of its client. It also, I believe, demonstrates that the PRC does not have as much influence over North Korea as a lot of people believe. If the PRC does begin to use its power to influence the North, Kim may believe that he has lost his last friend. That would be just as disastrous as the artillery exercise on YP Do.

At the moment, I do not see a happy ending to this story.