



**South Tyneside
Stop The War Coalition**



For Further Details of the Forum Contact: 07796267722

Korea “Crisis”- Exposing the Myths

South Tyneside Stop the War Coalition will host a discussion with Blanch Carpenter Secretary of the Society for Friendship with Korea (Northern Region) recently returned from the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK).

**Tuesday , February 15 2011
Trinity House Social Centre, 134 Laygate,
South Shields. (Nearest Metro
Chichester)
7.30pm - 9.00pm**

When a “crisis” regarding Korea suddenly appears in the U.S/UK corporate media, their take is always that the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) has done something totally irrational to cause it.

They disregard the facts of what happened and, of equal importance, what led up to it.

It was true that the DPRK shelled the island of Yeonpyeong on Nov. 23 2010. According to south Korean officials, two of their soldiers were killed. But the shelling

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occurred at 2:34 p.m. Korean time. What had happened earlier? Some 70,000 south Korean military personnel had been mobilized for war “exercises” which are north of the UN Korean war agreed armistice line. The South Koreans admit to having fired shells inside these waters that the DPRK considers its territory at 1:00 p.m. — more than an hour before the north’s response.

If south Korea, and its huge sponsor, the U.S., had wanted to avoid confrontation with the DPRK, would they have fired shells into a disputed area? Especially since the DPRK had already declared that the military manoeuvres were “simulating an invasion of the north”? The last Korean war killed over one million people on the Korean peninsula and the US has since refused to sign a peace treaty with the DPRK.

In July, the US and South Korea held joint “exercises” in the same waters, off the west coast of the Korean Peninsula. The manoeuvres involved 200 aircraft and 20 ships, including the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier the USS George Washington.

People should not fall for another “Gulf of Tonkin” (Vietnam) or “weapons of mass destruction” (Iraq) lie. The enemy of peace is right here, in the board rooms and banks of the U.S and UK, that are also destroying everything the people have won over generations of struggle and hard work.

Hands off the DPRK! Lift the sanctions against the DPRK! Foreign Troops Out of the Korean Peninsula!

Published by South Tyneside Stop the War Coalition
c/o Trinity House Social Centre, 134 Laygate, South Shields, NE334JD
Phone: 07796267722 email: stswc@blueyonder.co.uk
website: <http://www.northeaststopwar.org.uk/southtyneside>