

Anti-Imperialist News Service

Print Edition, March 27, 2017

www.anti-imperialist.org

Contents

**U.S. Military
Offensive in Iraq**

**South Koreans
Protest Against
THAAD System**

Read the
on-line
edition at

www.anti-imperialist.org

**Anti-Imperialist
News Service**

www.anti-imperialist.org

Phone:
(773) 642-6298

U.S. Military Offensive in Iraq

For the past month U.S. imperialism has carried out the latest phase of a large assault on the Iraqi city of Mosul. Reports described helicopter rocket fire, heavy gunfire and mortar blasts in districts near the Nuri mosque. In the past week U.S. forces have tried to seal off a main road in order to prevent attacks on their positions. Large sections of the city are being converted to rubble and hundreds of civilians have already been killed or wounded. The offensive has also displaced a great number of people. In the past five months, 255,000 people have been forced to flee the city. These brutal methods show that U.S. imperialism is willing to destroy Iraqi society to accomplish its aim of maintaining strategic military bases.

U.S. imperialism has placed a great deal of importance on retaking Mosul because it views the city as a center of Iraqi resistance. U.S. imperialism wants to wipe out its opposition because it is the sworn enemy of the

national liberation struggle of the Iraqi people. Right now U.S. forces are resorting to a lengthy siege against the city to try and carry out their aims, denying hundreds of thousands of people water, food, electricity, medical care and other necessities while raining bombs down on their homes.

And yet the U.S. occupation continues to take a beating. In Mosul, attempts by U.S. troops to seal off a main road from the city have been repeatedly blocked by counter-offensives. Resistance forces also have employed innovative tactics in their counter-offensives against the occupation troops. Iraqi troops and police serving as U.S. cannon fodder are forced to fight street by street while under constant attack. At the same time, positions retaken by U.S. occupation forces are coming under frequent attack. This is the result of fourteen years of war and occupation in Iraq.

South Koreans Protest Against THAAD System

On March 18, 2017, 2,000 people demonstrated in Seongju county, South Korea against the U.S.-South Korean government plans to deploy a THAAD (Terminal High Altitude Area Defense) ballistic missile system. The demonstrators carried banners saying “No THAAD but peace,” and they demonstrated in defense of the sovereignty of South Korea and their right to determine their own affairs free of U.S. imperialism dictate and interference.

The protests took place one day after U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson visited South Korea. Tillerson insisted that the U.S. and South Korean government “decided to take the defensive measure of deploying THAAD Missile Defense System” in South Korea. Tillerson added that it is the U.S. government “expectation” that any South Korean government “will continue to be supportive of the Thaad system.” In other

words, Tillerson is asserting that since the government of South Korea is a pro-U.S. puppet regime, then the U.S. government can violate the sovereignty of the country in service of U.S. imperialism's military aims.

Spitting in the face of the South Korean people, the U.S. is stepping up its militarization of the situation on the Korean peninsula. The Pentagon is deploying more weapons in and around the Korean peninsula while carrying out war exercises and spy-flights against the north.

The U.S. government's refusal to respect the sovereign rights of the Korean people – including the right for peaceful reunification according to the free and sovereign will of the people themselves – is not only a violation of the fundamental principles of international law, it is also the source of tensions on the Korean peninsula.