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***"Freedom of the Press belongs to those who own one."***

*A. J. Liebling of the New Yorker*

October 24, 2002



### The Korean Mess

**T**he idiocy of negotiating with liars lies bare, naked, and obvious even to Nobel Peace Prize winning Jimmy Carter. Well, perhaps not him, but surely everyone else.

It was Smiling Jimmy who negotiated the nuclear blackmail deal between equally smiling Bill Clinton and the thugs in North Korea. Even though North Korea refused to let the UN inspectors in their country to verify the agreed-upon ending of their uranium enrichment program, Jimmy and Bill claimed a peace victory and shipped our agreed-upon ransom of food and fuel to North Korea.

Now, I am shocked, shocked to hear that the North Koreans have admitted that they cheated. I am certain you are equally shocked. Hell, only Jimmy Carter is actually shocked...he is so naïve that I suspect he is actually stunned. I hate to speak ill of a fellow Naval Academy graduate and submariner, but my plebe year roommate at Annapolis was Carter's Military Aide in the White House, and he told me that President Carter passed academics but failed life.

I entirely agree with the analysis. President Carter, indeed the military Carter, was a perfect example of an anomalous culture placement – he was a social worker mentality in an essentially military culture. I can think of nothing worse than someone with a police/military thought process in a social worker climate or someone with a social worker mentality in a police/military culture. Each of those is a recipe for failure.

**Commentary**

**President Clinton is another story. You can call him a lot of things, but naïve is not one of them. He simply was a very well-practiced pragmatist who took credit for all of the good, passed the buck for all of the bad, and kicked the can down the road when he could so that problems that could be delayed appeared on the next watch.**

**North Korea has recently admitted that they kidnapped scores of Japanese citizens and forced them to train North Korean spies in Japanese language and culture. North Korea is the most demented and culturally isolated government outside of the sub-African continent, and possibly even including it.**

**They are what they are, and ALMOST everyone knows that, except former President Carter – he who once hosted Daniel Ortega in the White House! I believe that former President Carter was a truly nice man. I believe that he would make a fine Director of Health, Education and Human Services – but he was a failed President by either economic or military measures and he was taken to the woodshed by the North Koreans when he negotiated the now admittedly failed nuclear agreement for President Clinton.**

**I hope that North Korea, driven by decades of starvation, has admitted to past errors with Japan and the U.S. in order to open a dialog with the West. That is possible, just not likely. I know the details of the torture of the crew of the U.S.S. Pueblo (AGER-2), and I know that there are still THOUSANDS of MIAs from the Korean War of long ago, I know of the attempts to kill South Koreans including their President, I know of their forced slavery and starvation of millions...and I don't trust them.**

**Presidents Carter and Clinton did trust them. Now we are in one hell of a mess! We face either more blackmail or actual war.**

**Nice job, guys!**

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