

Written by John Hallam
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PEOPLE FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT
HUMAN SURVIVAL PROJECT

'JOINED AT THE HIP' STATEMENTS MAY ENDANGER AUSTRALIAN CITIES AND MILLIONS OF AUSTRALIANS

As it seems increasingly likely that there really might be a nuclear war with the DPRK at some point, maybe fairly soon, and as it seems that there really is no way to prevent a DPRK missile, possibly with a 250Kt warhead, from reaching any Australian city (if it can reach US cities it can reach Australian cities) it is becoming increasingly the case that the only constraints on whether or not Australian cities could be hit, will be the actual number of larger warheads and longer-range missiles the DPRK can actually deploy, and what target – lists Kim Jong Un and his generals choose to draw up.

Assuming Kim has a relatively small number of missiles available that can take a thermonuclear warhead across the Pacific, he may choose to concentrate on hitting Japan, South Korea, and the US west coast, plus a very few highly important military targets such as Guam and Okinawa.

If he has more missiles available for the task, he may want to maximise civilian casualties by hitting US allies such as Australia that utter 'joined at the hip' statements.

This means that such statements pose an immediate threat to millions of Australians. Prime Minister Turnbull should understand this. By making common cause with Trump, he places the lives of millions of Australians in jeopardy.

We should not be involving ourselves in any way in a war of choice by Donald Trump against the DPRK, and we should make our refusal to involve ourselves in it crystal-clear to all.

Foreign Minister Julie Bishops pleas for a reasonable, negotiated settlement are the way we need to go. We should stick to this. We must not go to an apocalypse on Donald trumps coat – tails.

The Government must do its utmost to keep Australian cities off Kim's 'map of death'. Failure to do so betrays Turnbulls most fundamental duty as an Australian Prime Minister, to keep Australians safe, and to ensure we are not vaporised.

Let us hope that Julie's wish for a sensible negotiated settlement eventually comes to pass. The alternatives are too terrible to contemplate, though they must in fact be contemplated.

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