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\*\*\*NEG – NATURAL DISASTERS\*\*\*

Uniqueness – Mega-Disasters Coming Now

Natural disasters are coming to Asia – global warming makes them more intense.

Devraj 9 (“India’s Monsoon Predictions More Uncertain” Ranjit Jun 27, http://ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=47395)KM

"Although it is impossible to predict the effects of global warming on the frequency of El Niños, all indications seem to be that they are becoming stronger, more common, and are no longer disappearing completely," says Kevin E. Trenberth, a lead author of the 2001 and 2007 United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)’s scientific assessments of climate change. "In other words, the Pacific doesn’t seem to be reverting to ‘normal’ anymore," Trenberth says in a report for the David Suzuki foundation. For Gopal what is truly worrisome is a complacent attitude in which anomalous weather conditions are gradually becoming accepted as normal - and this despite a series of catastrophic events over the last few years. In 2006, Cherrapunji in India’s northeast - famed as the wettest place on earth - received considerably lower amounts of rainfall, whereas arid, desert states such as western Rajasthan received unusual amounts of rainfall, bringing in its wake all manner of calamities, including diseases. The July 2005 Mumbai deluge wreaked havoc in the western metropolis, causing billions of dollars of damage and the loss of hundreds of lives. Surging floodwaters triggered by the 2002 monsoon killed more than 800 people in Bangladesh, India and Nepal and displaced millions. This year Cyclone Aila devastated coastal Bangladesh leaving over 24,000 people homeless, and destroying large tracts of mangrove forests. "The intensity and frequency of freak spells of rain and drought, cyclones and storms are only getting worse by the year. Science increasingly suggests that climate change is going to change the pattern of the Indian monsoon," Gopal said. After assessing historical data, the IPCC in its fourth assessment report in 2007 suggested that "warming in India is likely to be above the average for South Asia, with an increase in summer precipitation and an increase in the frequency of intense precipitation in some parts."

Asian storm season is extended this year because of global warming.

IRIN 10 (30 April 2010, , “PAPUA NEW GUINEA: Storms set to intensify” the humanitarian news and analysis service of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=88983)KM

But increased storm intensity is just part of the problem. “Weather conditions are more variable than in the past,” Samuel Maiha, the director of the PNG Meteorological Department in Port Moresby confirmed. Traditionally, tropical storms would strike between November and May. Today the season runs from October to June instead, he said. Nearly 500,000 people live in coastal communities Of PNG’s 6.3 million inhabitants, 80 percent live in rural subsistence communities and have traditionally been susceptible to extremes of climate (rains and drought) related to the El Niño, but are often unaware of the risks. At the end of 2009, eight men from Mahur Island in the country’s northeast went missing while fishing. Two months later, their boat was found drifting near the island nation of Nauru, with seven severely malnourished survivors on board, two of whom later died. “People becoming lost at sea is becoming more usual,” Nick, one of the survivors, told IRIN. “Reading the weather is harder, and tides have also changed, but we have to fish and travel by boat.” According to the National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI) general knowledge in PNG of climate change effects is poor, particularly in rural areas.

Uniqueness – Mega-Disasters Coming Now

More powerful storms are set to come to Asia – New Guinea proves.

IRIN 10 (30 April 2010, , “PAPUA NEW GUINEA: Storms set to intensify” the humanitarian news and analysis service of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=88983)KM

Storms are set to intensify in Papua New Guinea (PNG), specialists warn, as the Pacific island nation grapples with the effects of climate change. The country is already highly prone to natural disasters - including earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis, cyclones, river and coastal flooding, landslides, and drought. “As ocean surface temperatures rise, storms will increase in intensity. This is the driving factor,” Bradley Opdyke, a scientist with the Department of Earth and Marine Sciences at the Australian National University, told IRIN from Canberra. “At these temperatures, like those found seasonally around the island of PNG, the likelihood of intense storms does increase.” At risk are low-lying coastal areas and many coral atolls, with nearly 500,000 people in 2,000 coastal villages vulnerable to weather extremes and inundation, a recent report by the World Bank and the South Pacific Applied Geo-science Commission stated. “Combined with a sea-level rise, increasing storm intensity raises the risk of coastal storm surge, inundation, and storm damage generally,” James Renwick, a Wellington-based scientist with the New Zealand National Institute of Water & Atmospheric Research, said.

Uniqueness – Disasters Coming Now

Climate change is exacerbating natural disasters now – More than a billion will be effected

Ferris 7 (Elizabeth - Senior Fellow and Co-Director Brookings-Bern Project on Internal Displacement, http://www.humansecuritygateway.com/documents/BROOKINGSBERN\_makingsenseofclimatechange.pdf, AD: 6/25/10) jl

The forecasted impact of climate change on Asia is similarly drastic. The IPCC says that melting glaciers will result in increased flooding and rock avalanches in the Himalayas followed by decreased river flow over the next several decades. Further, freshwater availability in “Central, South, East and South-East Asia, particularly in large river basins, is projected to decrease which, along with population growth and increasing demand arising from higher standards of living, could adversely affect more than a billion people by the 2050s.”45 Moreover, “endemic morbidity and mortality due to diarrhoeal disease associated with floods and droughts are expected to rise in East, South, and South-East Asia due to projected changes in the hydrological cycle…increases in coastal water temperature would exacerbate the abundance and/or toxicity of cholera in South Asia.”46

Climate change is rapidly exacerbating Asia-Pacific natural disasters

IFAD 9 (International Fund for Agricultural Development, http://www.ifad.org/events/apr09/impact/pacific.pdf, AD: 6/25/10) jl

The Stern Review and IPCC 4th Assessment Report both state that climate change will have adverse impact on people’s health, safety and livelihoods, with the “poorest people in the poorest countries expected to suffer first and foremost”. Predicted climate change will create barriers to future poverty reduction and reverse many of the important socioeconomic gains made by developing countries. In the Asia/Pacific region there is evidence of prominent increases in the intensity and/or frequency of many extreme events such as heat waves, tropical cyclones, prolonged dry spells, intense rainfall, tornadoes, snow avalanches, thunderstorms, and severe dust storms in the region. Furthermore, the region is highly subject to natural hazards, such as the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami, the 2005 Pakistan Earthquake, and the 2006 landslides in the Philippines. Such impacts pose additional risks for already vulnerable communities striving to combat poverty and achieve sustainable development. The Asia/Pacific region accounted for 91% of the world’s total death and 49% of the world’s total damage due to natural disasters in the last century. Therefore, climate change poses a serious and additional threat to poor farmers and rural communities in the region who live in remote, marginal areas such as mountains, drylands and deserts; areas with limited natural resources, communication and transportation networks and weak institutions. In particular, climate models indicate temperature increases in the Asia/Pacific region on the order of 0.5-2°C by 2030 and 1-7°C by 2070. Temperatures are expected to increase more rapidly in the arid areas of northern Pakistan and India and western China. Additionally, models indicate rising rainfall concentration throughout much of the region, including greater rainfall during the summer monsoon. Furthermore, winter rainfall is likely to decline in South and Southeast Asia, suggesting increased aridity from the winter monsoon. The region will be affected by an increase in global sea level of approximately 3-16 cm by 2030 and 7-50 cm by 2070 in conjunction with regional sea level variability. Other scientific studies have also indicated the potential for more intense tropical cyclones and changes in important modes of climate variability such as the El Niño-Southern Oscillation. Numerous factors show that the Asia/Pacific region possesses a high degree of vulnerability to such climatic changes affecting millions of poor rural people. The majority of the estimated 500 million rural poor in the Asia/Pacific region are subsistence farmers occupying mainly rain-fed land. Impacts of such disasters range from hunger and susceptibility to disease, to loss of income and human livelihoods. Climate change is in fact emerging as the pre-eminent development issues in the region. The following are some the identified key aspects of the region’s exposure, sensitivity, and adaptive capacity that contribute to its net vulnerability to climate change. The Asia/Pacific region is exposed to a range of climate conditions and extreme events. In particular, some of the key features of the region’s climate are the influences of monsoons, the El Niño-Southern Oscillation, and cyclones on rainfall. Much of the region is adapted to, and thus reliant upon, the annual monsoon occurrence, which leaves it vulnerable when the monsoon fails and rainfall is significantly limited. Meanwhile, variability associated with the El Niño-Southern Oscillation, and particularly El Niño events, contributes to cyclic drought and extreme sea levels in the southwest Pacific. Finally, much of coastal Asia/Pacific is affected by tropical cyclones and their associated high winds, storm surge, and extreme rainfall. These climate challenges are permanent features of the Asia/Pacific region, but ones that may be significantly altered by anthropogenic climate change in the decades ahead.

Uniqueness – Disasters Coming Now

These regions of asia are uniquely susceptible to natural disaster

IFAD 9 (International Fund for Agricultural Development, http://www.ifad.org/events/apr09/impact/pacific.pdf, AD: 6/25/10) jl

Costal areas, especially heavily-populated megadelta regions in South, East and South- East Asia, will be at greatest risk due to increased flooding from the sea and, in some megadeltas flooding from rivers. In particular, the megadeltas most vulnerable to climate disasters are Manila, Bangkok, Kolkata and Hoh Chi Minh City. Projected sea-level rise could threaten the livelihood of millions of poor rural people living in the low-lying areas of the Pacific Islands and South and South-East Asia such as Vietnam, Bangladesh and India. The high vulnerability is due to many factors including the geology and geography of some of the region’s coastal zones, the growing density of population in the coastal zone, and the limited adaptive capacity of poor rural people.

The amount of people potentially devastated by floods will double by 2050

Shanahan 4 (Mike, Scidev Staff Writer, http://www.scidev.net/en/news/threat-of-devastating-floods-will-double-by-2050.html, AD: 6/25/10) jl

The number of people living in the path of potentially devastating floods is set to double — from one to two billion — within two generations unless adequate preventative steps are taken, according to researchers at the United Nations University (UNU).

The researchers blame climate change, deforestation, rising seas and population growth for the elevated risk of facing once-in-100-year flooding.

Asia is at extreme risk of massive natural disasters

Reuters 5/31 (http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/IRIN/6ff26920408e35418dc72223060162d5.htm, AD: 6/25/10) jl

NAIROBI, 31 May 2010 ([IRIN](http://www.IRINnews.org)) - Bangladesh, Indonesia, Iran and Pakistan top a new ranking of countries at "extreme risk" of experiencing natural disasters compiled by a global risk assessment company. The Natural Disaster Risk Index (NDRI), released on 27 May by Maplecroft, ranks 229 countries according to the human impact of natural disasters in terms of deaths per annum and per million of population, plus the frequency of events as well as the likelihood of earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis, storms, flooding, droughts, landslides, extreme temperatures and epidemics. Asia accounts for most of the disaster-related deaths since 1980.

Uniqueness – Disasters Coming Now

Massive earth quake in the Philippines is imminent – It’s capital will be destroyed domestic efforts at containment will fail

IRIN Asia 10 (News Organization, http://www.irinnews.org/report.aspx?ReportId=88484, AD: 6/25/10) jl

MANILA, 19 March 2010 (IRIN) - The Philippines government is preparing for a massive earthquake in the metro Manila area, but local authorities’ efforts need to be stepped up, experts say.
Home to more than 11.5 million people, metro Manila comprises 16 cities and one municipality.
It is estimated some 25 million people will live in the National Capital Region (NCR) - including the increasingly urbanized areas of Laguna, Cavite and Rizal provinces - by 2015.
“After the Chile earthquake, we called Metro Manila mayors to assess their readiness,” Glenn Rabonza, executive officer of the National Disaster Coordinating Council ([NDCC](http://www.ndcc.gov.ph/)), told IRIN in Manila.
On 12 January, more than 220,000 people were killed and thousands more were injured when a 7.0 magnitude quake struck Haiti. On 27 February, an 8.8 magnitude quake - the seventh-largest ever recorded - killed hundreds more in Chile.
“We’re not ready,” Ishmael Narag, officer-in-charge of the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology ([PHIVOLCS](http://www.phivolcs.dost.gov.ph/)), said.
After what happened in Typhoon Ketsana, which inundated 80 percent of Manila on the island of Luzon on 26 September 2009, “we saw how slow local governments responded to the disaster”, Narag said.
Although a master plan for earthquake disaster management had been in place since 2004 – with more than 100 recommendations – local authorities had yet to give it the full priority it needed, he maintained.
Dangerous fault lines
From 2002 to 2004, experts sent by the Japan International Cooperation Agency ([JICA](http://www.jica.go.jp/english/)) assisted the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) and PHIVOLCS in undertaking an impact reduction study.

Metro Manila sits atop or close to at least four faults, including the Valley Fault System (VFS), the Philippine Fault, the Lubang Fault, and the Casiguranan. The VFS, previously known as the Marikina Fault, is considered one of the country’s most active.
According to the [study](http://www.jica.go.jp/philippine/english/office/others/newsletter03.html), a rupture along the VFS could result in a 7.2 magnitude earthquake, which could kill up to 33,000 people and injure more than 100,000 if adequate preparations are not made.
Although the NDCC has long instructed local governments to strengthen building codes, prepare residents, and train people in earthquake response, Rabonza concedes it is still not happening as it should.
“It’s a question of how passionate or how committed they are… There have been relentless efforts after the study, but it’s still a work in progress,” he said.
A new building code was enacted to prepare Metro Manila, but Narag says implementation remains problematic.
“We have problems with residential houses. Most of them were not supervised by engineers. We’re not sure if they are following the minimum standards of the code,” he explained.

Links – South Korea

US military presence in South Korea is key to rapid disaster relief response

Snyder 9 (Scott - Director of the Center for US Korea Policy and senior associate of Washington programs in the IR Program of the Asia Foundation, CSIS, http://csis.org/files/media/csis/pubs/090409\_snyder\_pursuingcompvision\_web.pdf, AD: 6/25/10) jl

A U.S.-South Korea comprehensive alliance need not be focused on countering a single potential military threat such as North Korea or China. Instead, military cooperation should be organized in such a way as to maximize respective capacities and contributions to preserve regional stability. If military coordination is organized in such a way as to maximize capacity to respond to multiple threats and is embedded in a broader politically based partnership designed to respond to regional, global, and functional security needs, it will be harder for neighbors to object to such cooperation. Although there is no immediate reason for alliance coordination to be targeted against a single country, such coordination would retain a level of readiness sufficient to respond to the emergence of threats regardless of their origin. But if a single country was to emerge as a threat to regional security, the alliance would be a ready instrument through which to respond.

A comprehensive alliance might lay the foundation for cooperation with like-minded countries on missions that serve common interests, both within and beyond Northeast Asia. Such an approach would allow for flexibility to develop a bilateral and regional response capacity in the event of natural disasters and humanitarian missions such as tsunami relief, environmental accident response, and search and rescue missions. Such cooperation might form the core of an eventual mechanism for multilateral security cooperation that would respond to common regional and global threats.

Links – Military Presence K 🡪 Natural Disasters

US Military presence is key to rapid deployment of assistance in the event of natural disasters

PACOM 9 (US Pacific Command, http://www.pacom.mil/web/Site\_Pages/Media/News%20200910/20091004-AFHARRT.shtml, AD: 6/25/10) jl

The Pacific Air Forces HARRT was developed by 13th Air Force here to provide a rapidly deployable team that provides medical assistance in the event of a natural disaster in the Asia-Pacific region. The team is capable of deploying to a disaster relief site within 24 hours of notification and can setup a fully operational medical facility within six hours of arrival.
The team going to Indonesia is made up of elements from Elmendorf AFB, Alaska; Hickam AFB, Hawaii; Andersen AFB; and Yokota AB. It will include a surgical team capable of providing specialized care for those injured by the earthquakes. The team will be able to treat approximately 300 patients a day.
The U.S. Embassy in Jakarta has responded to the Indonesian presidents statement allowing friendly nations to provide earthquake assistance. Because of the forward deployed presence of the U.S. military and past military-to-military interactions with the Indonesian military, the United States is poised to help as much as possible.
The United States has military capabilities positioned in the affected region that are ready to support emergency relief efforts and minimize human suffering. In addition to the HARRT, U.S. military assets include a Humanitarian Assistance Survey Team, composed of personnel from various units within U.S. Pacific Command, and the USS Denver with Marines from the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit embarked.

US military presence would distribute humanitarian assistance

Official Website for New Jersey 2 (http://www.state.nj.us/military//korea/factsheets/human.html, AD: 6/25/10) jl

Photo Caption: Orphaned Korean children receive clothes and toys from an American serviceman that were donated by American relief organizations.

During the Korean War, emergency assistance provided relief to Korean War orphans, refugees, widowed, injured and jobless persons. In addition to monetary contributions, assistance came in the form of food, clothing, shelter and medicine.

The Military Lends a Hand

The United States military had a highly-visible presence in humanitarian endeavors. The armed forces delivered vast amounts of food and clothing to people in need and routinely helped to rebuild orphanages and schools. Troops donated money for supplies and equipment, and American soldiers and Korean civilians worked alongside one another in reconstruction tasks. Chaplains also regularly visited orphanages.

\*\*\*Impacts – Korea

Impact Calc – Probability

The Asia-Pacific region is highly likely to have a natural disaster – Military force is key to minimize it’s impacts

Larkin 2 (K.B, Lieutenant-Commander, http://www.cfc.forces.gc.ca/papers/csc/csc28/mds/larkin.htm, AD: 6/25/10) jl

The Australian Defence White Paper 2000 explains that, as a secondary capability, its forces must be available to operate in support of other neighbours in the region, particularly when needed to provide disaster relief and other forms of humanitarian assistance.[[72]](http://www.cfc.forces.gc.ca/papers/csc/csc28/mds/larkin.htm%22%20%5Cl%20%22_ftn72%22%20%5Co%20%22)  In his address to the 7th WPNS, the Chief of the Singapore Navy pointed out that the “Asia-Pacific region also claims the infamous ownership to more than 70% of the world's natural disasters,”[[73]](http://www.cfc.forces.gc.ca/papers/csc/csc28/mds/larkin.htm%22%20%5Cl%20%22_ftn73%22%20%5Co%20%22) and as a consequence there is considerable need for preparedness, and a clearly defined role for navies in the region in the event of a natural disaster.

The Asia-Pacific region is uniquely vulnerable – Seismic, climatic, and environmental factors

UNEP 97 (UN Environmental Program, http://www.rrcap.unep.org/apeo/Chp1h-nathazards.html, AD: 6/25/10) jl

Many of the Asia and Pacific developing countries are situated in the world’s hazard belts and are subject to floods, droughts, cyclones, earthquakes, windstorms, tidal waves and land slides, etc. The major natural disasters that occur periodically in this region are largely due to climatic and seismic factors. The region has suffered 50 per cent of the world’s major natural disasters (ESCAP, 1995a). Since the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction began in 1990, the total number of deaths due to natural disasters in the region has exceeded 200,000 and the estimated damage to property over this period has been estimated at US$ 100 billion (ESCAP, 1995a). Vulnerability to disasters has increased due to the increased aggregation of people in urban centres, environmental degradation, and a lack of planning and preparedness. The estimated number of people affected by disasters in the Asia-Pacific region during 1980–90 is given in Figure 18. Disasters can result from:

meteorological phenomena such as typhoons and hurricanes, sheet flooding and marine and river-based floods;

geological processes such as volcanic eruptions, earthquakes and tsunami; and

climatic phenomenon such as the El Nino Southern Oscillation that results in a lowering of mean sea level in the east of the region, failure of the monsoon rains in India, and drought in Indonesia and Australia.

Vulnerability to natural hazards has increased in many coastal areas due to the loss of coastal habitats such as mangroves and coral reefs that provide natural protection from marine flooding. A summary of disaster statistics for countries in the Asia-Pacific region during 1966–90 is given in Table 8. China, India and Bangladesh are ranked first, second and third, respectively, based on the total number of deaths during that period.

Rapid population growth makes this region uniquely disaster-prone

UNEP 97 (UN Environmental Program, http://www.rrcap.unep.org/apeo/Chp1h-nathazards.html, AD: 6/25/10) jl

Rapid population growth is accelerating vulnerability to disasters as settlements encroach into disaster-prone lands. This will ultimately cause more risk to human life in the years to come. It has been estimated that annual flood losses in some countries are 40 times more today than they were in the 1950s (ESCAP, 1992). According to the Indian Government, one out of every 20 people in the nation is vulnerable to flooding and in China over 85 per cent of the population is concentrated on alluvial plains or basins along river courses which comprise one third of the total land area (ESCAP, 1992).

Impact Calc – Probability

Massive earthquakes devastate this region – Assistance is key

UNEP 97 (UN Environmental Program, http://www.rrcap.unep.org/apeo/Chp1h-nathazards.html, AD: 6/25/10) jl

Earthquakes. The Asia-Pacific region alone has recorded 70 per cent of the world’s earthquakes measuring 7 or more on the Richter scale, at an average rate of 15 events per year (ESCAP, 1995a). The countries of the region which are badly affected by earthquakes include Japan, the Philippines, India, Nepal, Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Pacific Islands. Many of the countries in the region are located along, or adjacent to, the Pacific Ocean Seismic Zone or the Indian Ocean Seismic Zone. For example, 50–60 per cent of India is vulnerable to seismic activities of varying intensity (ESCAP, 1995a), particularly the areas in the Himalayan region and the Union Territory of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The earthquake in Maharashtra State in Western India in September 1993 claimed over 12,000 lives (ESCAP, 1995a).

Internals – Disaster Relief K 🡪 Soft Power

Rapid deployment of disaster relief is key to soft power

Porth 8 (Jacquelyn S, Staff Writer for America.gov, http://www.america.gov/st/peacesec-english/2008/June/20080627150217sjhtrop0.657818.html, AD: 6/25/10) jl

They also expose local populations to U.S. naval forces, cultivating a familiarity and receptivity that Cossa said “could come in handy in the event of future crises while building up a reservoir of goodwill.”  For the other partnering nations, they promote better communications and more fluid operations among participating naval personnel.

Cossa said humanitarian missions like the Mercy's are “win-win in every sense of the word: They promote confidence and build trust.”  Offering this kind of assistance leaves a lasting impression of American values and ideals, he said.  “It underscores what is best about America.”

“This is the essence of American soft power,” Cossa said.  “It enhances the image not only of the U.S. Navy and the military, but of America in general.”

The military is the best entity to respond to natural disasters – this improves soft power globally

Garcia et al. 9 (John – Major US army, Michael Rak - Lieutenant Commander, David - Major US army, http://www.au.af.mil/info-ops/iosphere/09summer/iosphere\_summer09\_garcia.pdf, AD: 6/25/10) jl

The question may arise as to why the military should take on this role instead of civilian programs such as the Peace Corps, USAID or the State Department. The answer is numbers and flexibility. The military has the personnel, reachback resources, and planning staffs available to truly make these types of missions succeed. The Peace Corps only has slightly more than 8,000 volunteers and trainees (as of Sept 2007) serving in 70 countries.26 A military peace force will significantly contribute to these numbers while bringing more trained technological experts to a location to hone their skills. More importantly, these military based teams would, more importantly, give combatant commanders first hand knowledge of the actual ground situation in regions of concern. If tensions were to flare up, the military staffs would have personnel in place with extensive knowledge of local customs, culture, and conditions. This type of knowledge would be instrumental in mobilizing a timely and accurate response should a more traditional military mission be necessary. Building a consolidated U.S. effort to structure the U.S. Military that focuses more on the conditions that may lead to hostility will take a large investment in both time and funding. In addition, spending money on overseas programs where the U.S. populace cannot see a direct correlation to their safety or economic benefit is not an easy sell, but with wise use of the media, this can be achieved. The strategic importance of these events cannot be overstated. Spending time and money now on preventative programs is better for our economy, prestige, and security. The U.S. must live up to its superpower status and must stand up and focus its efforts on preventing the conditions of war by providing food, health, and technological development instead of spending larger sums of money later on kinetic operations, peacekeeping, and peace enforcement operations. Using soft power, appropriately directed as an opinionshaping tool, followed up by a focused, insightful information operations campaign and public affairs support to publicize developments must become part of the military mission set. Investing time, money, and personnel in areas before they become a breeding ground for discontent is a true use of soft power. Although it may be expensive to build peace, wars are much more expensive.

Internals – Disaster Relief K 🡪 Soft Power

Soft power from disaster relief is just as important as power projection and deterrence

Salenga 9 (Edilberto M, Commander in US navy, http://www.dtic.mil/cgi-bin/GetTRDoc?Location=U2&doc=GetTRDoc.pdf&AD=ADA500907, AD: 6/25/10) jl

The new Cooperative Strategy for 21st Century Seapower, released in October 2007, supports the objectives of National Defense Strategy. In as much as the theme of spreading democracy dominated former President Bush’s 2006 National Security Strategy, the theme of “global naval cooperation” dominates the new maritime strategy. The Honorable Donald Winter, Secretary of the Navy, clarifying the inclusion of soft power and shift from major power projection, stated in an interview regarding the new strategy: “We can’t do things unilaterally...not all things, not all places.”3 Given that the new strategy still includes hard power requirements, the inclusion of soft power applications that are comparable with naval power projection and deterrence make the new maritime strategy quite different from the previous strategies. The Navy has traditionally been used to address conventional threats by projecting firepower from the sea, but this orientation may not be the best for the 21st century security environment. The Navy, in its effort to maintain relevance in the long war that does not necessary require heavy projection of firepower, has now embarked on this new cooperative course. The strategy which was signed by the three sea service chiefs is unprecedented; it added a new mindset for the application of naval power, “preventing wars is as important as winning wars.”4 By proactively establishing relationships in peacetime, the U.S. will be able to mitigate human suffering in conjunction with interagency and multinational efforts, both in a deliberate, proactive fashion and in response to crisis. The human suffering moves us to react and the expeditionary nature of our maritime naval assets uniquely positions them to provide assistance. In addition, the ability to conduct rapid and sustained non-combatant evacuation operations is critical to relieving the plight of American citizens and others when their safety is in jeopardy.5 Although the sea services conduct many missions that include forward presence, deterrence, sea control, power projection, and maritime security; the relatively new core competencies of humanitarian assistance and disaster response capabilities comprise the core of U.S. soft maritime power and reflect an increase in emphasis on those activities that prevent war and build partnerships. Its expanded maritime strategic core capabilities of forces that can respond to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief if natural or manmade disasters strike is impressive. Naval forces have routinely been made available during peace time and humanitarian operations due to natural calamities that the new strategy places the soft power of “global cooperation” equal to naval hard power pillars of power projection and deterrence is unprecedented.

Impacts – Soft Power

US decline will explode into transition wars – Soft Power is key to maintain predominance

Brzezinski 5 (Zbigniew, National Security Advisor in the Carter Administration, Professor of Foreign Policy at Johns Hopkins University, *The Choice: Global Domination or Global Leadership*, p. 2-4) jl

History is a record of change. a reminder that nothing endures indefinitely. It can also remind us, however, that some things endure for a long time, and when they disappear, the status quo ante does not reappear. So it will be with the current American global preponderance. It, too, will fade at some point, probably later than some wish and earlier than many Americans take for granted. The key question is: What will replace it? An abrupt termination of American hegemony would without doubt precipitate global chaos, in which international anarchy would be punctuated by eruptions of truly massive destructiveness. An unguided progressive decline would have a similar effect, spread out over a longer time. But a gradual and controlled devolution of power could lead to an increasingly formalized global community of shared interest, with supranational arrangements increasingly assuming some of the special security roles of traditional nation-states. In any case, the eventual end of American hegemony will not involve a restoration of multipolarity among the familiar major powers that dominated world affairs for the last two centuries. Nor will it yield to mother dominant hegemon that would displace the United States by assuming a similar political, military, economic, technological. and sociocultural worldwide preeminence. The familiar powers of the last century are too fatigued or too weak to assume the role the United States now plays. 0 is noteworthy that since 1880, in a comparative ranking of world powers (cumulatively based on their economic strength, military budgets and assets, populations, etc). the top five slots at sequential twenty-year intervals have been shared by just seven states: the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, France, Russia, Japan, and China. Only the United States, however, unambiguously earned inclusion among the top five in every one of the twentyyear intervals. and the gap in the year 2000 between the top-tanked United States and the rest was vastly wider than ever before.' The former major European powers—Great Britain. Germany, and France—are too weak to step into the breach. In the next two decades, it is quite unlikely that the European Union will become sufficiently united politically to muster the popular will to compete with the United States in the politico-military arena. Russia is no longer an imperial power, and its central challenge is to recover socioeconomically lest it lose its far eastern territories to China. Japan's population is aging and its economy has slowed, the convenstional wisdom of 1980s that Japan is destined to be the next "superstate" now has the ring of historical irony. China, even if it succeeds in maintaining high rates of economic growth and retains its internal political stability (both are far from certain), will at best be a regional power still constrained by an impoverished population. antiquated infrastructure, and limited appeal worldwide. The same is true of India, which additionally faces uncertainties regarding its long-term national unity. Even a coalition among the above--a most unlikely prospect, given their historical conflicts and clashing territorial claims—would lack the cohesion. mind, and energy needed to both push America off its pedestal and sustain global stability. Some leading states, in any case, would side with America if push came to shove. Indeed, any evident American decline might precipitate efforts to reinforce America's leadership. Most important , the shared resentment a American hegemony would not dampen the dashes of interest among states. The more intense collisions—in the event of America's decline -could spark a wildfire of regional violence, tendered all the more dangerous by the dissemination of weapons of mass destruction. The bottom line is twofold: For the next two decades, the steadying effect of American power will be indispensable to global stability, while the principal challenge to American power can come only from within—either from the repudiation of power by the American democracy itself, or from America's global misuse of its own power. American society, even though rather parochial in its intellectual and cultural interests, steadily sustained a protracted worldwide engagement against the threat of totalitarian communism, and it is currently mobilized against international terrorism. As long as that commitment endures, America's role as the global stabilizer will also endure. Should that commitment fade—either because terrorism has faded, or because Americans tire or lose their sense of common purpose—America's global role could rapidly terminate. That role could also be undermined and &legitimated by the misuse of US. power. Conduct that is perceived worldwide as arbitrary could prompt America's progressive isolation, undercutting not America's power to defend itself as such, but rather its ability to use that power to enlist others in a common effort to shape a more secure international environment.

Those wars go nuclear and cause extinction

Nye 90 (Joseph, Dean of the Kennedy School of Gov’t at Harvard, *Bound to Lead*, p.17) jl

Perceptions of change in the relative power of nations are of critical importance to understanding the relationship between decline and war. One of the oldest generalizations about international politics attributes the onset of major wars to shifts in power among the leading nations. Thus Thucydides accounted for the onset of the Peloponnesian War which destroyed the power of ancient Athens. The history of the interstate system since 1500 is punctuated by severe wars in which one country struggled to surpass another as the leading state. If as Robert Gilpin argues, international politics has not changed fundamentally over the millennia,” the implications for the future are bleak. And if fears about shifting power precipitate a major war in a world with 50,000 nuclear weapons, history as we know it may end.

Internals – Instability

Natural disasters cause massive civil unrest - we must limit the magnitude of conflict

Drury and Olson 98 (A. Cooper - John G. Tower Center for Political Studies Department of Polsci @ Southern Methodist U, Ricahrd Stuart - International Hurricane Center Ddepartment of Polsci at Florida International University, http://web.missouri.edu/~drurya/articlesandpapers/JCCM1998.pdf, AD: 6/25/10) jl

As noted above, it has been argued that disasters overload political systems by multiplying societal demands and empowering new groups on one hand while disarticulating economies and disorganizing governments (as well as revealing their organizational, administrative, and moral deficiencies) on the other. While it is also acknowledged that disasters may strengthen leadership and solidify governments, depending upon their handling of the emergency response and then reconstruction, the overwhelming picture is one of system stress and public dissatisfaction with government. Because disasters are by definition a mismatch between a natural event’s impacts and the response resources and efficiency of the affected society, we expect that no matter how well a government handles a disaster, public dissatisfaction increases. This dissatisfaction may focus on one or more of the disaster phases: pre-event mitigation/preparedness, post-event emergency response, and/or long-term reconstruction. For example, after the 1972 earthquake disaster, the vast majority of Nicaraguans did not fault the Somoza regime for mitigation failures; they were, however, aghast at the misappropriation of relief and then reconstruction assistance, which was appalling even by the Somoza regime’s prior standards. In Mexico City after the 1985 disaster, on the other hand, mass protests broke out over building code violations and corruption in the regulation of construction, especially of public buildings. With this mind, therefore, we expect a positive relationship between the severity of a disaster’s losses and subsequent political unrest. The disaster-unrest relationship endures because people tend to remember the losses for years to come. The death of community members, much less family members, is especially remembered. Additionally, disasters typically leave in their wake a slew of destruction that can hardly be resolved or repaired in a year’s time. Nonetheless, a society’s anger does not continue forever. Time does in fact heal, and as years pass, people’s anger tends to ebb. Thus, we assert that a disaster increases political unrest for several years, but the effects decay over time.

Without rapid disaster relief internal conflicts escalate to violent clashes

Tay and Paungmalit 10 (Simon and Phir, Singapore Intitute of International Affairs, http://www.siiaonline.org/files/2.pdf, AD: 6/25/10) jl

The International Strategy for Disaster Reduction of the United Nations defines a disaster as ‘a serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society causing widespread human, material, economic or environmental losses which exceed the ability of the affected community or society to cope using its own resources.51 From this definition it follows that natural disasters are usually associated with a temporary local collapse of state functions. Poorly implemented disaster relief effort, ineffective emergency planning, delays in the arrival of relief, and misuse of aid funds are typical examples of state failure in these situations. This loss of state power to intervene in disaster situations can result in problems for political stability in a number of respects. For example, if responses to the aftermath of natural disasters are inadequate, then people may begin to lose confidence in the government’s ability to protect them. And the collapse of the infrastructure and humanitarian disasters could bring about a crisis. This crisis in turn could exacerbate existing internal and social conflicts, culminating in violent clashes.

\*\*\*AFF – NATURAL DISASTERS\*\*\*

Aff – Guam/Japan Fill In

Forward deployment in Japan fills in for Asia

Koons 3 (Christopher, Journalist, http://www.news.navy.mil/search/print.asp?story\_id=10929&VIRIN=10040&imagetype=1&page=1, AD: 6/26/10) jl

Medical Readiness '04 got under way as soon as the ship pulled out of her forward-deployed port of Yokosuka, Japan, and continues throughout the fall cruise, according to Cmdr. Kris Belland, Kitty Hawk’s senior medical officer. During this time, according to Belland, medical personnel will review the crew’s medical records and make sure all needs are met.
“It’s preventive medicine for the crew,” said Belland. “Our goal is to identify medical issues they may have before they become serious.”
Kitty Hawk and Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 5 have joined efforts to provide this service to the entire ship. “Everyone in both commands’ medical departments is involved in it,” said Belland.
Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Arturo Rivera, CVW-5’s aviation medical technician, said the level of cooperation between the two staffs creates "a positive environment."
According to Belland, the medical departments will be assessing each Sailor’s readiness by department and scheduling evaluations. Sailors will be asked to fill out a questionnaire, get their blood pressure checked, and have their height and weight measured.
Lt. Temujin Chavez, part of Kitty Hawk’s medical staff, looks for the not-so-obvious symptoms that can affect readiness. “I ask them about their personal history, such as what illnesses or medications they’ve had, and also their family history.”
Chavez said his job as a physician is to make sure all loose ends are tied up concerning Sailors’ medical issues.
“It’s a good idea to get a look at every member of the crew in order to prevent serious complications,” said Chavez. “If there are complications, we catch them early.”
Kitty Hawk Hospital Corpsman Jacob Abercrombie said his job for the program is to measure the height, weight and blood pressure of Sailors.
“If their blood pressure is high, they’ll need to be checked out for acute care and be issued blood pressure medication,” said Abercrombie.
Abercrombie said he believes the readiness program is good because it makes medical department’s job more efficient.
“We make sure everyone is squared away on their medical issues so that we know how to treat them,” he said.

US military presence in Japan expedites medical readiness from a month to 12 hours

Svan 3 (Jennifer, Stars and Stripes Staff Writer, http://www.stripes.com/news/lean-and-mean-medical-gear-gets-yokota-test-1.12914, AD: 6/26/10) jl

The 374th Medical Group’s EMEDS team is the only Air Force unit of its kind in the western Pacific. In the Air Force, the concept of a lightweight field hospital that could deploy quickly evolved after Operation Desert Storm, said Capt. Terrell Freeman, medical readiness flight commander.

“When it came to medical capabilities, we were always the last to the fight because we were too big,” he said. The service’s former field hospital — the Air Transportable Hospital — took 15 to 30 days to deploy with enough equipment to load down three C-5 cargo planes, Freeman said. The first EMEDS team — with supplies — can deploy and be ready to operate within 12 hours.

“We’re light and lean and get to the fight during the fight,” Freeman said.

Other services already are eying the EMEDS concept. The field hospital was opened up Wednesday to a bevy of visitors, from media representatives and Japanese government officials to Army and Navy medical planners.

“I’m very impressed. It has a lot of capabilities,” said Maj. Tim Johnson, a medical plans officer for U.S. Army Japan.

Lt. Cmdr. Cedric Corpuz, a human resources and contingency planner from U.S. Naval Hospital Yokosuka, said he was impressed with the field hospital technology.

Aff – Guam/Japan Fill In

HAART empirically has solved humanitarian crisis’s

Pierce 9 (Veronica, Staff Writer, http://www.dvidshub.net/?script=news/news\_show.php&id=39816, AD: 6/26/10) jl

PADANG, Indonesia — A U.S. Air Force Humanitarian Assistance Rapid Response Team arrived at the Bandar Udara International Airport late in the evening, Oct. 5, with approximately 200,000 pounds of medical and contingency response equipment.
The 69-member team set up a mobile field hospital near the M. Jamil hospital here to work closely with host-nation medical personnel. The field hospital is equipped to provide treatment ranging from acute to surgical care. The team began seeing patients, Oct. 7, and treated more than 70 people in the first eight hours.
The only pharmacist on the HARRT, Capt. Ellen Roska from the 374th Medical Support Squadron at Yokota Air Base, Japan, said she has been impressed with the teamwork shown by the HARRT.
"I've had bio folks, lab techs and even non-medics help make sure the pharmacy was up and running," she said. "We also have local medical students helping as translators."
The captain said although the services provided are primitive compared to home-station capabilities, the team has been able to meet the needs of each patient.

HAART fills in rapid response medical readiness in the Asia-Pacific region

Air Force Times 9 (http://www.airforcetimes.com/news/2009/09/airforce\_HARRT\_090109w/, AD: 6/26/10) jl

The HARRT concept is designed to make disaster relief efforts throughout the Asia-Pacific region more responsive and efficient. The team, sent in on two C-17 aircraft, is a self-sufficient disaster relief capability that is able to operate in an austere environment for up to five days without resupply.

A HARRT package includes 54 medical and contingency response personnel. It is an initial response capability and would be supplemented or replaced by other relief capabilities in the days following a disaster.

“We are confident the HARRT will offer the commander of U.S. Pacific Command an impressive capability in responding to disasters throughout the Asia-Pacific region,” Pritt said. “This exercise will not only validate our assumptions about the capabilities of the HARRT, but will also allow us to identify areas that need improvement.”

The Pacific region is regularly beset by natural disasters such as typhoons, tsunamis, volcanoes and flooding caused by monsoon rains, and the U.S. military plays a major role in disaster relief in the huge region.

\*\*\*NEG – REUNIFICATION/LANDMINES\*\*\*

Uniqueness – DMZ Stable

Uniqueness – DMZ is fine now

Rabiroff 10 (Jon, Stars and Stripes: the US military's independent news source, May 26, http://polytest.stripes.com/news/korean-dmz-looks-normal-despite-friction-1.104168) LL

DEMILITARIZED ZONE, Korea — Tensions between North Korea and South Korea are at one of the most strained levels since the Korean War, but you couldn’t tell from what was happening in and around the DMZ on Wednesday.

At the Joint Security Area in Panmunjom, teenage girls giggled while a United Nations Command security escort briefed them about the history of the area and a North Korean soldier stoically looked on from across the Military Demarcation Line.

A few miles away, tourists by the busload took turns stepping up to the row of binoculars on the observation deck at the Dora Observatory to gaze across the border into North Korea.

And, down the hill from there, South Koreans employed at the Kaesong Industrial Complex lined up every hour as they always do for the three-mile drive into North Korea to go to work, despite the fact that the North on Tuesday banned entrance to eight government officials from the South who accompany them.

“Everything is going along like normal,” U.S. Forces Korea spokesman David Oten said, referring to the 20 DMZ crossings each day back and forth to the industrial complex, where 1,000 South Koreans work with 42,000 North Koreans at 120 South Korean-owned businesses.

That was the theme of the day despite worsening relations between the two Koreas sparked by the March 26 sinking of the South Korean warship Cheonan and the deaths of 46 sailors.

Last Thursday, an international panel of investigators made public its determination that a torpedo fired from a North Korean submarine ripped the 1,200-ton patrol ship in two, and on Monday, South Korean President Lee Myung-bak announced measures his country will take in retaliation.

Among other things, South Korea cut off trade with the North, will no longer allow North Korean ships to use its waters and will seek U.N. Security Council action against the rogue nation.

Lee said the Kaesong Industrial Complex would continue operating, leaving it as the lone remaining symbol of cooperation between the two Koreas. But its status is in doubt after the North threatened Wednesday to shut down the facility if it is further provoked.

None of that seemed to matter to the visitors and workers at the DMZ. Tours went on with no additional security measures.

Pullout = Reunification

US military presence prevents Korean reunification

AINDF 9 (Anti-Imperialism National Democratic Front, http://www.korea-dpr.com/ocn/?p=110, AD: 6/25/10) jl

The US forces in south Korea hindered the inter-Korean railway and road relinking project, talking about the permission of the UN Command and the US government prevented south Korean businesses from advancing into the Kaesong Industrial Zone under the pretext of the ban on shipment of strategic materials.

The US military has spoiled the atmosphere of reconciliation and stirred up inter-Korean confrontation by launching large-scale joint military drills with south Korea bellicose forces whenever inter-Korean cooperation projects made progress.

When inter-Korean relations showed a sign of thawing in June 2004 the Americans instigated the south Korean war hawks to trigger off an armed clash in the West Sea of Korea. They also sabotaged the 18th round of inter-Korean ministerial talks by starting the RSOI and Foal Eagle joint military rehearsals.

Facts tell that the US in pursuit of the anti-DPRK policy is the main obstacle to inter-Korean reconciliation and unity and Korea’s reunification.

Complete withdrawal causes Korea reunification

Nguyen 9 (Peter Van, UPI asia Staff Writer, http://www.upiasia.com/Security/2009/10/13/us\_bases\_are\_obstacle\_to\_korean\_reunification/1193/, AD: 6/25/10) jl

However, U.S. military bases in South Korea could pose the greatest obstacle to a peaceful reunification of the Koreas. Even a unified Korea might not want the U.S. military, as reunification would make the objective of providing deterrence against the North redundant.

A U.S. military base in a united Korea would only strain ties with China, as it would be difficult to explain why it was required if the North Korean threat no longer exists.

Also, millions of North Koreans have a deeply embedded resentment against the United States and are highly suspicious of its geopolitical moves in the region. Many believe that the South Korean government is a puppet of the United States. Stationing troops in Korea after reunification would only reinforce this belief.

This would create a deep rift within the Koreas and threaten to derail the reunification process. The complete withdrawal of all U.S. military bases and personnel from the Korean peninsula should follow after a timetable has been set, allowing the new Korea to handle its own security.

Pullout = Reunification

US military presence prevents Korean unification

Van Nguyen 9 (Peter, UPI, Oct 13, http://www.upiasia.com/Security/2009/10/13/us\_bases\_are\_obstacle\_to\_korean\_reunification/1193/) LL

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US forces in Korea deter violence and conflict

Parker 3 (Richard, Colonel, USAWC Strategy Research Project, July 4, http://www.dtic.mil/cgi-bin/GetTRDoc?Location=U2&doc=GetTRDoc.pdf&AD=ADA414532) LL

Today, the United States Forces Korea (USFK) and United States Forces Japan (USFJ)

continue to play a vital role in the security of South Korea, contributing greatly to regional

stability in Northeast Asia. The U.S. holds the highest positions in three major commands in

Korea: United Nations Command (UNC), Combined Forces Command (CFC), and USFK,

dominating the command and control architecture. The U.S. Army presence in Korea consists

primarily of the 2d Infantry Division, which consists of two ground brigades, an aviation brigade,

and organic artillery. Also, there exists a set of pre-positioned equipment for a third ground

brigade and pre-positioned stocks of support materials for U.S. forces and the ROK military.

These additional stocks are in Korea and Japan, but are primarily committed to a Korean

conflict scenario.8 The U.S. Air Force maintains two bases in South Korea at Osan and Kunsan

(plus, bases in Japan), with a varying number and type of aircraft. The U.S. Navy and Marine

Corps have little in Korea, being able to project from other bases in the Pacific region (notably,

Okinawa for the Marines). In total, USFK occupies forty-one troop installations and an

additional fifty-four small camps and support sites for the nearly 38,000 members. Many of

these garrisons occupy land that in the past was open, but now sits opposed to spreading

urbanized areas—causing some local resentment. In particular, the main U.S. base (Yongsan)

occupies a key position in Seoul. Although an agreement was reached in 1990 to move the

U.S. headquarters, funding deficiencies and site disagreements have shelved any further action.

The current Land Partnership Program, however, will reduce basing to twenty-three installations

and consolidate U.S. forces in Korea—reducing some of the tension between Americans and

Koreans.9 These forward deployed forces provide the U.S. president with the means to act in

support of national interests in the Northeast Asia region.

Pullout = Reunification

US forces in the DMZ are key to deter North Korea

Cummings 4 (John, Colonel, USAWC Strategy Research Project, May 3, http://www.dtic.mil/cgi-bin/GetTRDoc?Location=U2&doc=GetTRDoc.pdf&AD=ADA423298) LL

Today the United States’ interests in South Korea encompass security, economic, and

political concerns. The United States has remained committed to maintaining peace on the Korean Peninsula. This commitment is viewed as vital to the peace and stability of Northeast Asia.

The United States currently maintains 37,500 troops in South Korea to supplement the

650,000-strong South Korean armed forces.2 The purpose of these forces is to deter the 1.2

million-man North Korean army, which is forward deployed in the lower third of the country,

along the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ). Most of the American forces in Korea are forward-based

Army personnel arrayed across the southern peninsula.

United States Policy Objectives toward South Korea rely on political stability in South

Korea. The United States considers political stability crucial to South Korea’s economic

development, to maintenance of the security balance on the peninsula, and to preservation of

peace in northeast Asia.3 A key factor in maintaining peace and stability in the region is keeping

the Korean Peninsula free of weapons of mass destruction.

Reunification Bad – DMZ

Reunification is devastates the DMZ

Rabiroff 9 (Jon, Stars and Stripes: the US military's independent news source, Oct 13, http://www.stripes.com/news/relatively-untouched-dmz-is-home-to-a-number-of-natural-wonders-1.96409) LL

DEMILITARIZED ZONE, Korea — The water deer nibbled away on the vegetation on the gently sloping bend along the Imjin River, seemingly unaware of the dozen people pointing and staring at it through a field scope from the opposite shoreline.

Nearby, the group observed a family of white-naped cranes feeding, something the endangered species does when wintering in the relative solitude of the Demilitarized Zone that divides North and South Korea.

While mention of the DMZ conjures images of stone-faced soldiers, barbed-wire fences, guns and guard towers, the area between North and South Korea has remained virtually untouched by humans for more than 55 years.

As a result, the DMZ has essentially become a 2.5-mile-wide, 155-mile-long nature park that is home to more than 50 species of mammals, roughly 200 kinds of birds and in excess of 1,000 plant species. Some of the birds and animals that live or visit here are threatened or endangered.

Now a movement is under way to protect the natural wonders of the DMZ from perhaps their greatest threat — peace and the reunification of the peninsula.

Ecologist Jeon Seon-hee, who regularly leads eco-tours into the area, said the land is a one-of-a-kind treasure, serving as a "green belt" from coast to coast and including a variety of ecosystems — ocean fronts, rivers, wetlands, mountains, valleys and heavily wooded areas.

"What I realize from talking with visitors from all over the world is that we are all curious about the ecological features of this area," she said through an interpreter. "This is the kind of natural heritage we should deliver to our next generation."

The threat certainly seems remote that the DMZ — surrounded on all sides by soldiers and barbed wire and harboring an estimated 3 million landmines — might someday be filled with highways, railways and apartment buildings.

But even though the two Koreas have been technically at war since 1950 — an armistice halted hostilities in 1953 — many South Koreans believe a reunification will come, and some think it will happen sooner rather than later.

So, in an odd twist of fate, the biggest threat to this peaceful area would be an official peace.

"I hope [the DMZ] would be retained as a conservation area. It would be a shame if it wasn’t," said Richard Widdows, a Purdue University professor spending a year teaching at Seoul National University.

"I’m just blown away by the wildlife here," he said on a recent eco-tour. "There are species here you won’t see anywhere else, and certainly not in the numbers that they have here."

A number of organizations and individuals are cataloguing the area’s various species, endangered and otherwise, with an eye toward preserving vast tracts of the DMZ if and when Korea is reunited.

Jeon, for example, has spent the past five years documenting endangered species she has seen in the western DMZ and the adjacent Civilian Control Zone, a buffer region on the South Korean side of the border. The eco-tours she leads are designed, in part, to garner public support for preserving the DMZ.

The rare animals she has spotted include white-tailed sea eagles, cinereous vultures and red-crowned cranes. Experts say Asian black bears, leopards, Amur goral, seals and otters also have been spotted in and around the DMZ in recent years.

The wildlife can sometimes provide a welcome distraction to U.S. servicemembers serving in the DMZ.

Reunification Bad – Economy

Reunification crushes the South Korean economy

Auerbach 4 (Alan J, Department of Economics Department of Economics KDI School of Public University of California University of Incheon Policy and Management Berkeley, http://elsa.berkeley.edu/~auerbach/burden2.pdf, AD: 6/28/10) jl

This paper uses Generational Accounting to assess the fiscal impacts of Korean reunification. Our findings suggest that early reunification will result in a large increase in the fiscal burden for most current and future generations of South Koreans. The Korean reunification’s fiscal impact appears much larger than that of German reunification, due to a wider gap in productivity between the two Koreas and North Korea’s much larger share of the unified country’s population. The projected large-scale fiscal burden on South Korea is attributable primarily to the rapid increase in social welfare expenditure for North Korean residents, rather than to the direct reconstruction cost of the North Korean economic system after the disintegration of its old economic regime

\*\*\*\*Reunification Bad – Instability/Conflict

Landmines in DMZ

Landmines are a key buffer for the DMZ

Robinson 98 (B.A., Ontario Consultants on Religious Tolerance, 1998, http://www.religioustolerance.org/landmine.htm) LL

Landmines currently provide the only feasible way of preventing passage through the buffer zone that separates North and South Korea. President Clinton believes that it would be irresponsible of him to sign the treaty at this time. He has suggested the date of 2006. By that time, alternatice weapon systems should have been developed.

President Clinton's proposed goal of the year 2006 is conditional on the development of a substitute defensive system. In them meantime, the Pentagon is seeking nearly $50 million from Congress in 1999 to develop a new landmine system called RADAM.

Landmines Deter NK

US landmines key to deter North Korea

Holbrook 9 (Trevor Holbrook, M.A. International Relations candidate @

Webster University in Bangkok, 2009, http://www.wcl.american.edu/hrbrief/17/1holbrook.pdf?rd=1) LL

Finally, the U.S. government has refused to sign the Ottawa Convention because it does not allow for reservations. According to the United States, the unique situation in the demilitarized zone (DMZ) of the Korean peninsula requires the use of antipersonnel landmines in order to deter North Korean forces from entering South Korea. Without landmines, a substantially higher number of troops and weaponry would be required in Korea and more lives would be at risk. As a result, the United States has determined that the military necessity of landmines outweighs the humanitarian benefits of a total ban on anti-personnel landmines.

Landmines serve as a key deterring factor – act as a force multiplier

Holbrook 9 (Trevor Holbrook, M.A. International Relations candidate @

Webster University in Bangkok, 2009, http://www.wcl.american.edu/hrbrief/17/1holbrook.pdf?rd=1) LL

In order to examine the reasons behind U.S. landmine policy, it is important to contrast the prominent military and humanitarian viewpoints on the issue. The military viewpoint stresses the value of anti-personnel landmines in conflict situations. They are considered “force multipliers” because they allow for the protection of larger areas with fewer troops. During military operations, active battlefields are viewed in terms of tactics and strategic objectives. Traditionally, marginal efforts aim to minimize “collateral damage” to civilians during wartime, while most concentrate on the main strategic objectives. The United States maintains that the responsible use of landmines in conflict situations is proportionately acceptable, in terms of military value, weighed against the potential danger to civilians.

Links – Landmines Protect DMZ

Landmines are effective weapons – protect the DMZ

Marin 2 (Chief of Staff of the Plans and Operations Division, U.S. Forces, Korea, Journal of Mine Action, April 2002, <http://maic.jmu.edu/JOURNAL/6.1/notes/marin/marin.htm>) LL

Past international agreements have so far been unsuccessful in totally limiting AP landmines, in part because these mines have been considered legitimate weapons of war when used in accordance with the rules of armed conflict. Traditionally, landmines have been used to protect military bases, missile sites and demilitarized zones. Most nations and groups seem to use them because they are a cheap and readily accessible means of defense and because they are an easy way to protect and control national borders and territories. Stephen Biddle believes that landmines serve an important purpose for the military: "They enable defensive positions to be held successfully by smaller forces, permitting commanders to use their available resources more efficiently. Mines are used to force attackers to reduce frontages and to direct those echelons into prepared engagement areas where defensive weapons can be cited for maximum effect. They increase an attacker’s losses, both by inflicting direct damage on attacking soldiers and vehicles and by inducing attackers to slow down in the presence of enemy fire. They decrease the morale of the enemy, force a military force to move with extreme caution and reduce military efficiency" (Biddle 1994). Overall, mines provide an adequate protection to military personnel in the field. The constant and long-term threat that North Korea poses to the ROK demands the enduring protection afforded by NSD ATL and APL. We remain at armistice, not peace; the military situation between North Korea and the ROK has not changed.4 In fact, the North Korea military continues to grow in size, and improve by acquiring modern systems, and it continues to move the majority of its force in proximity to the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ). All of these actions potentially reduce warning time of a North Korean attack, further necessitating constant readiness. We continue to need NSD ATL and APL until acceptable alternatives are fielded and in place.

Landmines deter reconciliation

National Men’s Resource Center 4 (non-profit organization to end isolation; 2004, <http://www.menstuff.org/issues/byissue/minehistory.html#environment>) LL

Land mines pose a continuous threat to peace and reconciliation. They prevent post-conflict reconstruction of war-torn economies and can too easily threaten fragile peace plans. Damaged infrastructures, including roads, bridges, and water supplies, impede efforts to deliver relief supplies to remote areas. This can perpetuate the cycle of poverty inherent in so many mine-affected countries, leading to further tension and conflict. Furthermore, these countries often become dependent on external food aid and other forms of international assistance. This dependency can undermine national pride and be exploited by extremist groups intent on overthrowing national and local governments. Land mines frequently prevent government access to politically important regions, impeding efforts to deliver goods and services, and hampering efforts to secure political support among local populations. A government's failure in these two areas often leads mine-affected communities to seek protection and assistance from armed groups, further undermining the national government’s attempts to restore peace to the region. Opposition groups capitalize on this local support to enable them to mobilize their forces and launch military attacks against government troops. The presence of land mines perpetuates the militarization of post-conflict societies and undermines the confidence and security needed for successful peace and reconciliation.

Links – Landmines Protect DMZ

Landmines prevent DMZ resettlement

Ilbo 10 (Joon Ang, Korea is One, Oct 27, <http://www.korea-is-one.org/spip.php?article993>) LL

The Demilitarized Zone, or DMZ, has the highest density of land mines in the world: 2.3 for every square meter, according to Cho Jai-kook, a coordinator of the Korea Campaign to Ban Land mines. How to clean up the DMZ ― the 155-mile-long, two-mile-wide no-man’s land ― will be a major predicament. Under the truce agreement that ended the hostilities, if not the actual war, the DMZ must be free of any arms, though the words are not matched by the reality. Every year, 10 people on average, civilians and soldiers, die in land mine mishaps, with the DMZ as the epicenter. What makes it worse is the lack of a land mine map, which under international law is required of any power that chooses to lay mines. The maps are the guides by which the mines are supposed to be removed. "It’s a universal principle for an army to remove the land mines when they withdraw, but it did not happen during the Korean War," Mr. Cho says. The way Mr. Cho sees it, however, all entry to the DMZ must be banned after unification until the mines issue is revolved. That will take years. One reason is that most of the mines in DMZ are "dump mines," which are difficult to find even with metal detectors. Another reason the DMZ will persist as a no-go area is budgetary. According to Mr. Cho, it will take about 60 years and at least $11.7 billion to clear the zone of the mines. In Germany, Mr. Cho said, "the government tracked down people who planted mines in order to remove them. It took a long time but was still thorough."

DMZ K 🡪 BioD

The DMZ is an ecological hotspot

Shore 4 (William, sr associate @ Institute for Urban Systems, Oct 15, http://www.worldwatch.org/node/566) LL

Korea's DMZ is the sacred resting place of soldiers and other war victims. Korean people have paid dearly and the DMZ memorializes that tragedy. Preserving the DMZ as a special place is therefore spiritually important.

Moreover, it is equally important environmentally. Excluding humans from the DMZ has allowed an unexpected and extraordinary experiment with nature to unfold. In this four-kilometer-wide corridor, stretching 250 kilometers across the peninsula, wild habitats have luxuriantly rebounded from war's destruction. The fallow land on the western section has reverted to thick prairie and shrubs. Rich green forests adorn the eastern mountain ranges. Endangered and rare plant and animal species have found homes there. Wildlife is plentiful; people have seen Asian black bears, leopards, musk deer, Amur goral (a kind of goat-antelope), and spotted seals. Some think there are Siberian tigers. According to George Archibald of the International Crane Foundation, rare cranes have returned to the DMZ; perhaps half of the world's 2,000 red-crowned cranes, as well as almost-as-rare white-naped cranes, spend time in the DMZ. Of the 1,000 black-faced spoonbills in the world, 90 percent breed in the DMZ. Crested ibis once lived there and can be re-introduced from China, where the flock has grown to several hundred. About 1,000 black vultures, and probably some Tristram's woodpeckers, also live in the DMZ. The white stork, which has died out in Japan, survives in Korea.

Protection of these migratory birds affects more countries than the Koreas. One expert recently wrote that "with the possibility of reunification between the Koreas, the DMZ may be the most important conservation issue throughout Asia. The potential loss of critical habitat to many endangered species that have become dependent on this habitat poses a great threat."

For ecosystem experts, the DMZ offers a unique laboratory to study nature's self-reclamation. For the Koreas, it offers the last opportunity to re-establish biodiversity in their lands. Both nations have largely been indifferent to their ecosystems, extirpating many species that persist in the DMZ. Though experts have not had access to the DMZ proper, they have found enough evidence to estimate that the DMZ and the partially protected adjacent land (the Civilian Control Zone, or CCZ, a farm belt kept partially open as a defense measure) host 52 mammal species, 201 bird species, 28 amphibian reptiles, 67 inland fish species, and 1,194 plant species. Some of them are globally significant, some globally rare and endangered-like the cranes. These can be the reservoir to re-establish lost species north and south.

The DMZ is key to water and clean air

Shore 4 (William, sr associate @ Institute for Urban Systems, Oct 15, http://www.worldwatch.org/node/566) LL

Apart from species protection, the DMZ and its adjacent CCZ offer startling beauty. Five rivers traverse the DMZ, a vital resource for the future of all Koreans. Mountains range from 700 meters to over 1,600 meters in height. Forests include deciduous and coniferous trees, protecting watersheds that empty into the Yellow Sea to the west. There are lakes, lagoons, sand dunes, mudflats, and wetlands.

The DMZ also is an important source of water and clean air. There is a startling contrast in air quality between the Zone and the rest of the country. Increasing numbers of South Koreans want to roll back the air and water pollution that rapid industrialization has created, and there is strong citizen support for preserving the DMZ as a place of pure water and pure air.

DMZ K 🡪 BioD

The DMZ is uniquely key to Asian biodiversity

Healy 7 (Hall, Interim President of the DMZ Forum, Inc., Peace Parks, 2007,

http://peaceparks2007.whsites.net/Papers/Healy\_%20Korean%20DMZ.pdf) LL

There are reportedly as many as 3,514 species – up to 1,597 plants, sixty-six mammals, hundreds of bird species, and almost 100 fish species - in the DMZ and CCZ. By one count, the species there represent 67% of all those found in Korea;2 and the DMZ is the only place where many of them still reside, having been extirpated from the rest of the peninsula due to development and industrialization in the south and deforestation in the north. From 1995 to the present, field and literature surveys have been conducted to assess biological resources of the area, which detail a wide range in the numbers of species: from 256-1,597 plants, four-66 mammals, 143-939 animals other than mammals, forty-nine to 233 birds, six-46 amphibians and reptiles, thirteen to ninety-eight freshwater fish and from fifty to 1,000 insects.3 These estimates emphatically portray the vast richness of the area. They also are symptomatic of the lack of direct access to the DMZ itself. Until now, data has been collected mainly from observations inside the Civilian Control Zone, without ability to enter the DMZ. Many charismatic mammal species, including Asiatic Black Bear, Musk deer, spotted seal, leopard and lynx inhabit and depend on the DMZ and CCZ. The Cultural Heritage Administration of South Korea has designated several DMZ species as “natural monuments”, including: Korea-Okhotsk Gray Whale, in waters off of the DMZ Otter, re-introduced just south of DMZ in Hwacheon County Chinese Water Deer Leopard Cat Amur Goral, a rare type of goat Korean Yellow-necked Marten Reportedly, twenty years ago there were even tigers in the mountains around Seoul, the capitol of South Korea, and there has been anecdotal evidence of tigers in the DMZ, CCZ area since that time. However, to-date, no scientifically-based studies have been conducted to verify their presence. The DMZ forms a vital link between ecosystems throughout Northeast Asia. Hundreds of bird species migrate twice a year through the DMZ going to and from Mongolia, China, Russia, Vietnam, Japan, the Philippines and Australia, essentially from the top to the bottom of the globe! If the DMZ green belt were destroyed, what would happen to this globe-spanning chain? Species include many that, according to IUCN (World Conservation Union), are endangered. For example, a majority of the Black-faced Spoonbill, with a total estimated world population of 1,679, breed on the western coastal islands off the DMZ 4. Two former DMZ inhabitants, the Oriental White Stork and Crested Ibis, are potential candidates to reintroduce to the area. Spending part of their life cycle here are other species, many of which also are already endangered. Black Vulture Great Bustard Stellar’s Sea Eagle Whooper Swan White-tailed Sea Eagle Chinese Egret Mandarin Duck Tristram Woodpecker Broad-billed Sandpiper Ruddy Shelduck Bean Goose White-fronted Goose Swan Goose “Red-crowned Cranes have a special place in Korean culture as symbols of long life and good luck and are frequently depicted in folklore and art. In historic times, Red-crowned Cranes, White-naped Cranes and Hooded Cranes wintered at many widespread lowland sites. Today the DMZ and CCZ provide a resting area for White-naped Cranes migrating to Japan. Satellite telemetry studies of these cranes have shown that during their long passage from wintering grounds in southern Japan to breeding grounds in northern China and southeast Russia, the DMZ is their major resting area. From October through March, the DMZ is a winter home for Red-crowned Cranes and for other White-naped Cranes that end their passage on the peninsula. Approximately one-third of the world’s 2,500 Red-crowned Cranes, and half of the world’s White-naped Cranes depend on the wetlands and agricultural fields in and near the DMZ. The most important areas are the Han River estuary in the west and the Cheorwon [sometimes spelled “Ch’olwon”] Basin in the central highlands. Hooded Cranes are now only found wintering at Sunch’ǒn Bay in the far south end of South Korea and in southern Japan.”5 By current estimates, almost 100 freshwater fish, some of which are endangered, inhabit DMZ and CCZ rivers and their tributaries. These include perch, shiners, dace, “Golden Mandarin,” Bitterling, Asian Gudgeon and Manchurian trout. At least eighteen of them are endemicsfound nowhere else in the world 6. The Chinese Mitten crab, now causing significant issues as an exotic species in San Francisco Bay, also naturally resides there. With the area’s many waterways, lakes and reservoirs and relatively low levels of pollution, there are estimated to be up to forty-six amphibians and reptiles, including the Narrow-mouthed frog, Korean fire-bellied toad, Asian Keelback snake, Rat snake, Korean magpie viper and a freshwater turtle. An integral component in the overall biologic system, according to a 1992-1993 survey there are the following insect phyla in the DMZ and CCZ, encompassing about 1,000 insect species some of which are protected.7 Most numerous are the vascular plants with estimates up to almost 1,600 species in the many and varied DMZ and CCZ ecosystems. Included are iris, violet, peony and lily, with many native Korean species. One variety of trillium has rounded leaves as opposed to their normal pointed ones. Research on another plant, Epimedium koreanum Nakai, has uncovered the fact that its extracts may have a potential salutary effect on osteoporosis.8 Perhaps this is a portent of what Edward O. Wilson refers to in The Future of Life9 as part of the substantial potential for pharmaceutical revenues from the world’s plants. Some of the lily, iris and trillium species are rare and endangered plants and protected by South Korean law. Distribution of these rare plants is mainly at Daeam Mountain and Yanggu in the mid-eastern mountainous area, Cheorwon in the mid-western region and Kanghwa Island on the west coast. In most regions, oak and pine are the dominant forest type, with oak second growth on the west coast, on islands and in the mid-west region, with Mongolian Oak in the mid-eastern mountains.10 A total of 282 species of mushrooms and fungi and 55 species of lichens have been surveyed in the DMZ and CCZ.11

\*\*\*AFF – REUNIFICATION/LANDMINES\*\*\*

Landmine Removal in SQ

Landmines indiscriminately hurt innocents

Troxell 0 (Parameters, Spring 2000, pp. 82-101, <http://www.carlisle.army.mil/USAWC/Parameters/Articles/00spring/troxell.htm>) LL

The final element of US policy concerns the Demining Initiative 2010. The solution to the existing landmine problem is not solved by either additional restrictions or a ban, but by the difficult task of removing mines and clearing land. Working with mine-affected countries, international agencies, and private groups, the US government has dedicated more than $375 million to demining activities since 1993, with a goal of eliminating the threat of landmines to civilians worldwide by 2010.[47] The demining effort is beginning to make significant progress. The latest edition of Hidden Killers reports that landmines are not being planted anywhere near the 1994 estimate of 2.5 million each year. In fact, more mines are being removed each year than are being emplaced. "While the problem is still huge, many experts now believe that the antipersonnel landmines crisis can be solved in years rather than decades."[48] US policy, which has attempted to balance humanitarian concerns with military requirements, appears to be relatively successful.

Korea will Protect the DMZ

Koreans realize the importance of preserving the DMZ; they would fill in after American withdrawal

Ilbo 10 (Joon Ang, Korea is One, Oct 27, <http://www.korea-is-one.org/spip.php?article993>) LL

Another reason the DMZ will persist as a no-go area is budgetary. According to Mr. Cho, it will take about 60 years and at least $11.7 billion to clear the zone of the mines. In Germany, Mr. Cho said, "the government tracked down people who planted mines in order to remove them. It took a long time but was still thorough." Once the mines are cleared, the strip may hold great promise as a nature preserve. Former President Kim Dae-jung has said the DMZ should be a home to "nature, free of any human touch." But Hahm Gwang-bok, who has been researching the DMZ for 30 years, does not agree. "Everyone thinks the DMZ is some kind of Garden of Eden where nature is preserved perfectly," he said, "but now the ecosystem is actually endangered and we need a Noah’s Ark to preserve the endangered species of the DMZ." The DMZ is no longer a natural setting, according to Mr. Hahm. "Something’s not right with the ecosystem," he said. Alien plant species, such as ambrosia artemisiifolia, have invaded the area. Elk have grown used to humans and have become tame; soldiers have been feeding eagles. "It’s twisted by an outside force ― the Cold War," Mr. Hahm said. "It needs some serious treatment to take the right care of the area, which would easily take decades." But he also recognizes the significance of the DMZ, saying "There’s no argument that DMZ has a very particular ecosystem that provokes broad academic interest." Son Gi-woong, a researcher at Korea Institute for National Unification, echoes the sentiment, saying, "The DMZ can give both Koreas a great opportunity as a unique place in the world in every sense, if it’s well preserved, that is." Mr. Son, as the expert in DMZ issues over years, suggests that the DMZ can be a home to international organizations like the United Nations. "Having the United Nations Environment Program based in the DMZ is one way," Mr. Son says, "and the DMZ in the long run must be made the most of by being the bridge of the North and South Korea. Only then can the Korean Peninsula claim its position as the starting point to link the Silk Road all the way to Europe."

Korea will Protect the DMZ

Efforts exist to in Korea to protect the DMZ; US intervention not key

IPS 97 (Oct 13, <http://www.albionmonitor.com/9710a/naturedmz.html>) LL

(IPS) WASHINGTON -- Uninhabited by humans for the past 45 years, the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) that separates North and South Korea has become an unlikely sanctuary for the region's endangered animals and plant species. But environmentalists and scientists are fearful for the future of the DMZ nature preserve, an area 250 kilometers long and four kilometers wide, should there be a reunification of the Korean peninsula. In the latest issue of the U.S. Journal of Science, researcher Ke Chung Kim of the Center for Biodiversity Research at Pennsylvania State University, calls for industry to be kept away from the DMZ in a proposed "Korean Peace Bioreserves System." "The DMZ is a ready-made nature reserve containing the last vestiges of Korean natural heritage," says Kim. "The Bioreserves System provides a strategy to preserve the rich biodiversity of the DMZ while fostering trust, understanding, and respect between North and South Korea." Regarded as one of the most pristine green spaces left in Asia, the DMZ, with its land mines and barbed wire, is also considered the world's most dangerous border. While rival armies snarl at each other across the divide between the two countries, cranes, swans and geese -- too light to trigger the mines -- dive for food in pristine rivers. Environmentalists and scientists are concerned that if the two Koreas are ever joined, the DMZ will be developed and become polluted like much of the rest of the Korean peninsula. Korea, once known as the "hermit kingdom" and a "land of embroidered rivers and mountains" has seen much of its natural ecosystems, including coastline and salt marshes, converted into industrial and urban centers. Development in South Korea has caused severe pollution of waterways and farmlands by pesticides, chemical fertilizers, and industrial and municipal waste, says Kim. In North Korea, rampant deforestation has caused severe soil erosion and flooding; military operations have also contributed to environmental degradation. This has resulted in a tremendous loss of biodiversity, says Kim. Almost 30 percent of the mammals and 60 percent of amphibians have disappeared. Furthermore, there is only meager knowledge of Korean biodiversity; for example there has been research into less than one-third of the insect species. "We may not know even what is endangered or what has become extinct," Kim told IPS. Every month, development creeps nearer to the demilitarized zone. The metropolitan area of Seoul keeps reaching closer to the demarcation line drawn up by armistice negotiators in 1953 with the end of the Korean War. An area near the DMZ called Kimpo Peninsula, which had about 6,000 residents five years ago, today has 250,000. Because the ecosystems and landscape in the DMZ represent a cross section of the Korean peninsula, Kim envisions it as a natural opportunity to protect the many endangered species while fostering trust between the two Koreas. Wildlife surveys have revealed the zone harbors many plants and animals that are considered endangered or threatened in the rest of the peninsula, says Kim. The DMZ ecosystems provide wintering grounds for two of the world's most endangered birds, the white-naped crane and the red-crowned crane. Preservation of DMZ wildlife should begin with the establishment of biodiversity preserves that could limit human involvement, says Kim. These could be administered jointly by both countries, and include international parks for natural heritage conservation and ecotourism. "The immediate goal," says Kim, "is to encourage the two Koreas to agree on the development of the Bioreserves System." The progress of coming closer to a peace agreement between the two countries should provide a more favorable political climate for the System, he adds. Since the Bioreserves System was first proposed in 1994, effort has focused on gaining public understanding and support within South Korea. Building on the work of artists from North Korea, a group of South Korean artists have promoted the project through a series of major art events and academic forums. Kim has focused on engaging North Korean scientists in cooperative projects for the protection of migratory birds. Special projects are also being developed to help advance biodiversity research and conservation in North Korea. In May, a Presidential Commission for Promoting Globalization, headed by South Korea's prime minister, recommended "selectively preserving the ecological integrity" of the DMZ - Kim notes that officials are being pressured by industrial interests to develop the DMZ. Once the concept is accepted, the formal process of establishing the bioreserves can begin with a bilateral working conference involving the two countries and global conservation organizations, he says.

Link Turn – Landmines Hurt Environment

Landmines are detrimental to the environment

National Men’s Resource Center 4 (non-profit organization to end isolation; 2004, <http://www.menstuff.org/issues/byissue/minehistory.html#environment>) LL

In addition to the impact on their victims, land mines also have severe environmental consequences. Mined areas can restrict access to large areas of agricultural land, forcing populations to use small tracts of land to earn their livelihoods. The limited productive land that is available is over-cultivated, which contributes to long-term underproduction, as minerals are depleted from the soil, and the loss of valuable vegetation. Furthermore, land mines introduce poisonous substances into the environment as their casings erode. Explosives commonly used in land mines, such as trinitrotoluene (TNT), seep into the soil. The decomposition of these substances can cause many environmental problems because they are often water soluble, carcinogenic, toxic, and long-lasting. Land mines also harm the environment when they explode, scattering debris, destroying surrounding vegetation, and disrupting soil composition. This substantially decreases the productivity of agricultural land and increases an area’s vulnerability to water and wind erosion, which in turn can add sediment into drainage systems, adversely affecting water habitats. Unexploded ordnance (UXO) detonations have similar results. One study has shown that the detonation of UXO in the Vietnamese province of Quang Tri has drastically reduced soil productivity. According to estimates, rice production per hectare has decreased 50 percent in this area. The slow degradation of land mines and their devastating impact on surrounding land can render resources unusable for many generations. The environmental impact of land mines is particularly pronounced when viewed in conjunction with socioeconomic factors and other consequences of land mine contamination.

Landmines damage biodiversity

Information for Action, no date given (conservation and environmental lobbying database, <http://www.informaction.org/cgi-bin/gPage.pl?menu=menua.txt&main=weapons_effects.txt&s=Weapons>) LL

It has been estimated that there are between 60 and 110 million landmines in the ground worldwide. Over 26,000 people are injured or killed by landmines annually and even greater numbers of domestic and wild animals are killed. The consequences of landmines are felt years after hostilities cease. As well as the human casualties, landmines are a significant contributor to such global environmental crises as deforestation, soil erosion, water pollution and declining biodiversity.Landmines cause physical and emotional injuries, destroy communities, and prevent reconstruction, access to safe water and the return of displaced persons to their homes. They also render fertile farmland unusable, creating food shortages and malnutrition. Soil: As landmines are planted just below the surface of the land, their most direct impact is upon soil quality and composition. When a landmine explodes it destroys surrounding vegetation and shatters and displaces the soil, making it vulnerable to water and wind erosion. If landmines explode on cultivated land, levels of agricultural production are dramatically reduced. In many countries, landmines have reduced harvest yields by as much as 50%. Even the reclamation of landmines has a detrimental effect on soil productivity. Clearing requires the ploughing of large areas of land which tears up and damages vegetation and biological diversity. Soil is also contaminated by toxic substances. As the casings of landmines decay and corrode, poisonous substances are leached into the surrounding soil and water. These substances, Trinitrotoluene (TNT) and Cyclotrimethylenetrinitramine (RDX), are carcinogenic and toxic to mammals and other organisms. They are long-lasting and can easily penetrate the food chain.

Link Turn – Landmines Hurt Environment

Landmines damage wildlife and drives deforestation

Information for Action, no date given (conservation and environmental lobbying database, <http://www.informaction.org/cgi-bin/gPage.pl?menu=menua.txt&main=weapons_effects.txt&s=Weapons>) LL

Wildlife and livestock: Wildlife and livestock are a common casualty of landmine explosions. There have been reports of antelopes and elephants killed by landmines during the civil war in Angola. Elephants have also been killed by landmines planted along the border between Burma and Bangladesh. Brown bears were killed by landmines in Bosnia and Croatia. Native tigers are threatened by landmines in Cambodia. In Tibet, rare species of clouded leopard, barking deer, snow leopard and Royal Bengal tiger have been reported as casualties of landmines – either maimed or killed. In the Congo Democratic Republic, rebel forces tested some fields for the presence of landmines by herding cattle across them. Depletion of resources/deforestation: The presence of mines denies farmers and villagers access to natural resources, and this drives them into more marginal and fragile environments. Forests often become the only source of fuel and food, and the resulting depletion of resources leads to deforestation and the destruction of biological diversity.When people are driven off their most productive agricultural land they may be forced to depend on a smaller area of land to survive or earn a living. This land may be over-cultivated and depleted of its minerals. Poor soils are fragile, vulnerable to erosion and yield less. Over-cultivation accelerates the process of desertification, which destroys complex ecosystems. The protection of natural resources in mined areas becomes almost impossible, and sustainable development plans are forced to be put on hold. For example, there are parts of north-west Egypt which are inaccessible as they still contain land mines from the battle of El Alamein in 1942.

Landmines bad for the environment – multiple warrants

Gangwarr 3 (Abdhesh, Coordinator

Centre for Environment Education, Himalaya, Apr 20, Google Docs)

Anti Personnel (AP) Landmines pose a serious threat to environment, livelihood and process of

sustainable development, affecting not only present but also future generations. They prejudice

economic development by disrupting the biosphere's life support systems and diminishing the

capacity of the environment to supply the raw materials and natural resources. Mines deny

access to natural resources, promote the rapid and unsustainable exploitation of marginal and

ecologically fragile environments, deplete biological diversity by destroying flora and fauna,

contaminate the surrounding soil and water with highly toxic substances, and destroy the

ecosystem itself by disrupting soil and water processes.

Link Turn – Landmines Hurt Environment

Landmines destroys the soil

Gangwarr 3 (Abdhesh, Coordinator

Centre for Environment Education, Himalaya, Apr 20, Google Docs)

Mines destroy flora and damage the soil structure, reducing soil productivity. Mines cause irreversible damage to ecosystems, including prolonged direct damage to soil through shattering and displacement, destruction of soil structure, and increased vulnerability of soil to water and wind erosion. In Vietnam landmines have dramatically reduced the soil productivity. There is 50% reduction in rice yield. Furthermore, the destruction of vegetation cover and topsoil by mines and UXO, coupled with deforestation, resulting from the use of defoliants such as "Agent Orange", has a cumulative effect. Reduced water retention in mountainous regions results in flooding and topsoil erosion on the coastal plains. The disruption to the soil structure further exacerbates the erosion problem, which leads to an increased sediment load in the drainage system. Increased sedimentation in coastal waters can adversely affect fish and prawn habitats. The extensive use of landmines accelerates deforestation. In areas where agricultural and grazing land has been mined, forests often become the only source of fuel and livelihood. Valuable forests and fruit trees are speedily striped and felled for firewood and building material. Deforestation affects drainage systems, water tables, wetlands, coastal mangroves and dune systems. Ecosystem services are disrupted, over both distance and time. Two decades of war and unrest in Cambodia, for instance, have destroyed 35% of its forest cover. In Vietnam, bombs alone are estimated to have consumed over 2 million acres of land. And in Afghanistan, one quarter of the forests were destroyed, leading to the conclusion that the damage to the forests may be the greatest environmental catastrophe that occurred in Afghanistan during the war.

Aff – Reunification Inevitable

Korean reunification is inevitable

Korea Herald 7 (http://bss.sfsu.edu/tsygankov/Op-Eds/korean\_unification.htm, AD: 6/28/10) jl

The upcoming Korean summit is scheduled to focus on on issues of peace and joint economic developments, and it is not clear how it will contribute to future unification of Korea. What seems clear, however, is that Korean unification, while not imminent, is historically inevitable. The progressive power differentials between the South and the North are all too obvious with the former booming and the latter barely surviving on foreign assistance. The surrounding great powers, such as China, the United States and Russia, are in no position to prevent a future Korean reunification even if they would want to.

Aff – Reunification SK Terms

Reunification of Korea would be on South Korea’s term

Wuchang 9 (Zhang, http://blog.sina.com.cn/s/blog\_5f1318270100g1cb.html, AD: 6/28/10) jl

Now his own poor health and the looming succession make even the pretence of a negotiated process too risky. The alternative to the status quo is not gradualist modernisation, as in China. Rather, it is collapse and unification on South Korea’s terms. Already, the broad population is profoundly embittered with the corrupt tinpot despotism. If Mr Kim and his cronies are not tried for crimes against humanity, it may be because they have already been strung up from lampposts. In trying to ensure his dynasty’s survival, the hard line is the 68-year-old Mr Kim’s only option. He is digging his regime in for the long term. Quite literally: the country is a vast network of tunnels and underground complexes for the leaders. Starved of cash, North Korea is drawn to other pariahs for business—even selling tunnelling advice to Myanmar’s junta, another bunch of totalitarian troglodytes.

Aff – US Presence = Reunification

Turn – US presence is key to peaceful unification

Duk-min 0 (Yun, Prof at Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security, http://koreafocus.or.kr/design1/layout/content\_print.asp?group\_id=1094, AD: 6/25/10) jl

Will China, Japan, and Russia readily accept Korean unification in an environment in which there is neither a U.S. military presence on the Korean peninsula nor a Korea-U.S. security alliance? Realistically, South Korea would have little leverage to control its own unification process if any of these three regional powers actively opposed Korean unification.
What is clear, though, is that the United States alone has the ability to ease regional concerns and prevent opposition from surrounding powers from interfering with Korea's unification process. As a consequence, unless the United States remains firmly on South Korea's side, it will be extremely difficult for Seoul alone to achieve peaceful unification.
The Korea-U.S. alliance does not present an obstacle to national unification but rather serves as a positive factor. Of course, there will always be those who argue that it was because of U.S. regional interests, not South Korean independence, that Washington sent thousands of young Americans to fight and die on the Korean peninsula half a century ago. But Koreans should not forget that the Republic of Korea was able to survive and thrive as a direct result of the blood shed by these young U.S. soldiers.