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OPINION | OTHER THOUGHTS

The Grim Reality **Of North Korea**

THE AUSTRALIAN (Feb. 19): Former High Court judge Michael Kirby's account of the "unspeakable atrocities" being committed in the North Korean gulags deserves better than the contemptuous response it has received from China, the one country with the leverage to compel the lunatic regime in Pyongyang to behave differently. The UN Commission of Inquiry headed by Mr Kirby spent a year taking evidence from 80 victims and witnesses. The catalogue of murder, torture, rape, abduction, enslavement and starvation it has produced should, as it says, provide "a shock to the conscience of humanity".

As the report concludes, the depredations committed by the Kim dynasty have "no parallel in the contemporary world". The depravity is reminiscent of some of the evil perpetrated by Nazi Germany and Pol Pot's Cambodia. The accounts tell of children forced to watch the execution of their parents, starved humans being fed to dogs, the "disappearance" of entire families, inmates in camps being disposed of in pots and starvation being used as a

Such diligently researched exposition, however, is not enough to persuade Beijing to start behaving like a responsible global citizen and show concern for people in a country over which it wields overbearing influence. Kirby has recommended the UN refer the Pyongyang regime to the International Criminal Court in The Hague. But Beijing has made it plain it would use its UN Security Council veto to prevent such action, falsely maintaining the report contains "unreasonable criticism" of Pyongyang.

The UN panel's account is the most comprehensive indictment yet of horrors that have been taking place for decades. China's new leadership cannot escape responsibility for what is still occurring in its neighbor. Pointedly, the UN panel has warned that Beijing, through its support of North Korea, is complicit in "aiding and abetting crimes against humanity." China's new leaders should consider that indictment before they veto the ICC action Kirby's panel has recommended. Any real improvement in North Korea, however, will come about because of direct pressure from Beijing rather than anything that happens in The Hague.

Kirby's report should also lead to far greater realism about North Korea, particularly in Washington, and about the need for China to pressure Pyongyang to abandon its rogue nuclear pro-

ON THIS DATE

By The Associated Press Today is Thursday, Feb. 20, the 51st day of 2014. There are 314 days

left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On
Feb. 20, 1944, during World War II,
U.S. strategic bombers began raiding German aircraft manufacturing centers in a series of attacks that became known as "Big Week

On this date: In 1792, President George Washington signed an act creating the U.S. Post Office.

In 1809, the Supreme Court ruled that no state legislature could annul the judgments or determine the juris-

dictions of federal courts. In 1862, William Wallace Lincoln, the 11-year-old son of President Abraham Lincoln and first lady Mary Todd Lincoln, died at the White House, apparently of typhoid fever.

sevelt signed an immigration act which excluded "idiots, imbeciles, feebleminded persons, epileptics, insane persons" from being admitted to the

In 1933, Congress proposed the 21st Amendment to the U.S. Constitution to repeal Prohibition.

In 1938. Anthony Eden resigned as British foreign secretary following Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain's decision to negotiate with Italian dictator Benito Mussolini

In 1950, the U.S. Supreme Court, in United States v. Rabinowitz, ruled 5-3 that authorities making a lawful arrest did not need a warrant to search and seize evidence in an area that was in the "immediate and complete control" of the suspect.

In 1962, astronaut John Glenn became the first American to orbit the Earth as he flew aboard Project Mercury's Friendship 7 spacecraft. In 1971, the National Emergency

Warning Center in Colorado erro neously ordered U.S. radio and TV stations off the air; some stations heeded the alert, which was not lifted for about 40 minutes.

In 1987, a bomb left by Un-abomber Ted Kaczynski exploded behind a computer store in Salt Lake City, seriously injuring store owner Gary Wright. Soviet authorities released Jewish activist Josef Begun. 1999, movie reviewer Gene

Siskel died at a hospital outside Chicago at age 53. In 2003, a fire sparked by pyrotechnics broke out during a concert by the group Great White at The Station nightclub in West Warwick, R.I. killing 100 people and injuring about

Ten years ago: California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger ordered the state attorney general to take immediate legal steps to stop same-sex weddings in San Francisco. (The next month, the California Supreme Court ordered an immediate halt to samepassing angry Senate Democrats, President George W. Bush installed Alabama Attorney General William Pryor as a U.S. appeals court judge in his second "recess appointment" of a controversial nominee in five weeks.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama warned a gathering of mayors at the White House that he would "call them out" if they wasted the money from his massive economic stimulus plan. The Dow Jones industrial average ended the week at 7,365.67, the lowest level in more than six years. Israeli President Shimon Peres chose Benjamin Netanyahu to form a new government. The WTA fined Dubai Tennis Championships organizers a record \$300,000 after Israeli player Shahar Peer was denied a visa by the United Arab Emirates

One year ago: The Obama administration announced a broad new effort to fight the growing theft of evidence linking cyberstealing to China's military. Former U.S. Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr., D-III., entered a quilty plea in federal court to criminal scheme to spend \$750,000 in campaign funds on personal items; his wife, Sandra Jackson, pleaded guilty to filing false joint federal income tax

Today's Birthdays: Gloria Vanderbilt is 90. Actor Sidney Poitier is 87. Racing Hall of Famer Bobby Unser is 80. Actress Marj Dusay is 78. Jazzsoul singer Nancy Wilson is 77. Racing Hall of Famer Roger Penske is 77 Singer-songwriter Buffy Sainte-Marie is 73. Hockey Hall-of-Famer Phil Esposito is 72. Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., is 72. Movie director Mike Leigh is 71. Actress Brenda Blethyn is 68. Actress Sandy Duncan is 68. Rock musician J. Geils is 68. Actor Peter Strauss is 67. Rock singer-musician-producer Walter Becker (Steely Dan) is 64. Former British Prime Minister Gordon Brown is 63. Country singer Kathie Baillie is 63. Actor John Voldstad is 63. Newspaper heiress Patricia Hearst is 60 Actor Anthony Stewart Head is 60. Country singer Leland Martin is 57. Actor James Wilby is 56. Rock musician Sebastian Steinberg is 55. Co-Joel Hodgson is 54. Basketball Hall-of-Famer Charles Barkley is 51. Rock musician lan Brown (Stone Roses) is 51. Actor Willie Garson is 50. Actor French Stewart is 50. Actor Ron Eldard is 49. Model Cindy Crawford is 48. Actor Andrew Shue is 47. Actress Lili Taylor is 47. Singer Brian Littrell is 39. Actress Lauren Ambrose is 36. Actor Jay Hernandez is 36. Country musician Coy Bowles is 35. Actress Majandra Delfino is 33. Singer-musician Chris Thile is 33. Actor Jake Richardson is

29. Singer Rihanna is 26. Thought for Today: "I've always believed in the adage that the secret of eternal youth is arrested development." — Alice Roosevelt Longworth former first daughter (born 1884, died this date in 1980).

FROM THE BIBLE

A soft answer turns away wrath. Proverbs 15:1. Portals of Prayer, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis



Kindle's Korner

Reading Recovery Still **Makes An Impact**

Wayne

KINDLE

YSD Superintendent

BY DR. WAYNE KINDLE

Superintendent, Yankton School District

Reading Recovery is a short-term early intervention curriculum designed to help the lowestachieving first graders reach average levels of classroom performance in literacy. Students in our program meet individually with a specially trained Reading Recovery teacher every school day for a 30-minute lesson. This occurs over a period of 12 to 20 weeks. These daily lessons aim to increase a child's reading ability

The Yankton School District began the Reading Recovery Program more than 14 years ago. Originally, eight teachers were trained in the program, using a combination of the YSD's General Fund money and federal Title I money. Because of the General Fund budget cuts, we now only have six Reading Recovery teachers, all using federal funds.

This school year, the program is currently serving more than 60 children in first grade and approximately 55 additional Title I students, a group that includes both first and second grade students. Each year for the past three years, the average reading level has risen. In fact, the text level has been higher than the national average. As with

trained, dedicated, and caring teachers. And we do. In 2010, the Ohio State University received a grant from the U.S. Department of Education to expand the use of Reading Recovery by training 3,675 new RR Teachers, thereby, expanding capacity to allow service to an additional 88,200 students.

any successful program, you must have highly

An independent research firm conducted an evaluation of the impact of these additional teachers over the course of five years. In the last two years of this evaluation, using the Iowa Test of Basic Skills ((TBS), the research found:

• Participating students tested 18 percentile points higher in Total Reading Scores than students in the control group.

• Participating students tested 16 percentile points in Reading Words scores higher than students in the control group.

• Participating students tested 20 percentile points higher in Reading Comprehension scores than students in the control group.

• The estimated standardized effect of the proram on students' ITBS Total Reading Scores was 0.68 standard deviations relative to the population of struggling readers eligible for Reading Recovery Additionally, 0.47 standard deviations relative to

nationwide population of all first grade students. This is clearly a program with measurable positive results. For that reason, we want to continue and strengthen Reading Recovery in the Yankton School District as funds become available.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

I wanted to share with our district patrons the good news about the Yankton High School National Honor Society, Arikara Chapter, which was chartered in 1960. Mr. John Cornette, a long time YSD guidance counselor, was the original advisor for this prestigious club. The original intent of the NHS was to recognize only academics.

In 2001, when Mr. Marc Bies became the advisor, the organization changed from strictly academic to also requiring the following for

• 3.5 cumulative GPA at the end of their sixth

- semester
 - Application listing: Activities
 - Service
- Four references of which at least two are
- teachers Brief paragraph of intent describing why a student would like to be a part of NHS

Code of conduct

- Maintenance of the 3.5 GPA to be eligible for graduation recognition
- · Recognition of NHS at graduation by wearing NHS cords at graduation ceremonies.

• Fall induction of their senior year. In 2008, when Mrs. Jennifer Powell took over as advisor, the following changes were made: • minimum 15 hours service membership re-

quirement • 2011 added year-round "training rules" membership requirement

• members in good-standing recognized at Graduation with Gold Cord

In addition, the Yankton High School National Honor Society, Arickara Chapter embraces these important Qualities:

• Scholarship: A commitment to learning. Service: A commitment to volunteering time

and abilities to the creation of a better tomorrow Leadership: A commitment to exert a wholesome influence on the school by taking initiative in class and school activities.

Character: A commitment to daily striving to make the right choice through the demonstration of the qualities of respect, responsibility, trustworthiness, fairness, caring and citizenship proving by example not only by word. On Feb. 3, 2014, Yankton High School in-

ducted 79 juniors into the National Honor Society. All of these students met or exceeded the

initial requirement of a 3.5 GPA or higher after five semesters with no major infractions from the beginning of their 11th grade school year. We are very proud of these students and all members of the NHS. I'm sure the Yankton community shares this pride as our tradition of excellence at Yankton High School continues.

LEWIS AND CLARK DEBATE

The Lewis and Clark Debate Tournament began in the late 1980s headed by former Yankton High School Teacher and Coach Mr. Paul Harens. According to Mr. Harens, this was the 28th Lewis and Clark Debate Tournament. Mr. Leo Kallis is the current coach of the Yankton High School De-

bate Team. This year alone there were 270 students participating in three debate and five speech events. In order to host this event, 75 rooms were used at both Yankton High School and Yankton Middle School. In addition to the space, this impressive event requires many workers and volunteers.

This tournament provides a wonderful opportunity for our students to compete against some of the finest debaters in the state. We are proud to sponsor this event and continue an academic tradition, which boasts many current and former Yankton High School place winners.

In addition to the academic and competitive opportunities, this tournament has had a significant financial impact upon our community. Nearly 230 students plus their coaches rented rooms, shopped, and dined in Yankton. Thank you to Mr. Kallis and all involved with this fantas-

THANK YOU

This past week was a very special week for me as school superintendent. As a matter of fact, I would consider it a highlight of my educational iors who are members of the National Honor Society have chosen a former Yankton High School graduate to not only address the new inductees, but also spend an hour speaking to and conversing with the seniors.

Past National Honor Society speakers have been Tom Brokaw, Mike Huether, and James Abbott, all successful and respected in their profession. This year, I was asked by the seniors to be their honored guest. It is difficult for me to put into words how honored I was to be asked. There are many things in the life a person can consider an honor, but in education I would consider this to be up near the top. I want to thank the students for allowing me this privilege.

KINDLE'S COFFEE

We held our first coffee on Jan. 15 at Yankton Middle School. Those in attendance learned about the different programs offered at YMS, toured the facility, and had an opportunity for Q/A with Dr. Kindle and Mr. Dvoracek.

The coffee time is open to anybody who wishes to come and visit. I will provide a 10-minute update on the Yankton School District. The building principal will give a 10 minute overview of their school, and a 15-minute tour of the building. The remaining 25 minutes will be question-and-answer time from those attending. Along with coffee, there will be rolls/donuts served.

The following are dates/times/locations for upcoming Kindle Coffees:

• March 12 — 9-9:45 a.m.: Lincoln Elementary

• April 9 — 9-9:45 a.m.: Webster Elementary

• May 14 — 9-9:45 a.m.: Beadle Elementary School.

In addition to the Kindle Coffees, I would be happy to visit with you personally or speak to your group/organization. I am also willing to host your group at our Administration Building or one of our school buildings. I would also come to your facility or meeting place if that is more convenient

for you and your group. If there is a specific topic you would like for me to address in the future, please call me at 665-3998 or email me at wkindle@ysd.k12.sd.us. Let's continue to have a great year!

Henry Ford stated, "Coming together is a beginning. Staying together is a process. Working together is a success.

YOUR LETTERS

A SD Advantage?

Bob Smith III, St. Paul, Minn.

Recently, I reviewed an April 2013 publication Minnesotans on the Move to Lower Tax States

(AmericanExperiment.org). That study covered 20 state movements in and out of Minnesota based on IRS tax return data that tracks taxpaver movement from state to state and gives us a relatively accurate picture of population migration.

I wanted to see what the pattern was to our neighboring states based on a normal-

ized out movement using raw data and not netting in-and-out movement nor considering the money transfers. Just at what rate adjusted for population per 100,000 it would be using Wisconsin as the norm. That meant going to the

TaxFoundation.org website migration calculator to pull up the Minnesota-Wisconsin data for 2005-2010 to match the above Here's what showed. Minnesotans

moved to South Dakota during 2005-2010

at almost exactly twice the rate as they

moved to Wisconsin and almost exactly

three times the population adjusted rate to South Dakota than they did to Iowa. Once again, double the Wisconsin rate and triple the Iowa rate!

What attracts Minnesotans to South Dakota? The most obvious — among others including no estate tax — is that there's no personal income tax and the state is perceived to be more business friendly. That raises two questions. First, do some of the Minnesota taxpayers moving to South Dakota take Minnesota businesses and Minnesota jobs with them? Maybe we can hear from the South Dakota Chamber and the Governor's Office of Economic Development with their thoughts. Second, a larger issue looms, will the

bad personal and anti-growth business taxes passed by the Minnesota 2013 Legislature accelerate movement to other more tax-friendly states? And, more so, could these bad laws deter job-creating business from starting or expanding here? I'm very concerned. My hope is that our Legislature will have the acumen to take immediate corrective action to prevent the possibility of a downward-trending pace of our state's potential economic recovery.