

ABSTRACT

A Study on the Stability Operations in case of a Sudden Change of North Korea

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A number of problems are expected in the process of reunification of two Koreas. The thorough review and following countermeasures should be contemplated on the possibility of Sudden Change of North Korea since it is not ensured that Koreas will be reunited in peace.

This study emphasizes the role of the ROK military, and reviews how its stability operations will appear in objective, range, and progress. To enable this, this study attempts to analyze stability operation cases of Iraq and Afghanistan both from the view of historical presentation. The source of the study are as follows: domestic and foreign papers, publishings of the Ministry of Unification and the Korea Institute for National Unification, related foreign texts and doctrine researches of the US Army College, and articles of the US media.

Based upon the aforementioned case analysis, this study covered the possibility and scenarios of a sudden change in North Korea, and included the

initial date, considerations, and suggestions on the specific conditions of the stability operations tailored to the current situation of Korea.

The conclusion are as follows:

(1) it is necessary to develop the stability operations standard operating procedures tailored for the Korean Peninsula in order to ensure security in case of a sudden change of North Korea;

(2) it is required for the ROK government to understand the objective of stability operations is to not only maintain security but also reconstruct North Korea;

(3) it is important to review how to assign missions to units and how to integrate and utilize their capabilities to ensure a success in stability operations;

(4) these capabilities must be fully ready prior to the sudden change to avoid emotional conflicts between South and North that are likely to occur otherwise.

Key words: Sudden change in North Korea, Stability operations, Reconstruction, Security, Iraq and Afghanistan wars, German re-unification, North Korea security forces, Korean counter-strategy, Social change, Social integration.