

Summit lays a path to peace, but no details

By **FOSTER KLUG**
Associated Press

GOYANG, South Korea — The leaders of North and South Korea vowed Friday to seek a nuclear-free peninsula and work toward a formal end to the Korean War this year, though their historic summit concluded with few specifics on how they will reach those ambitious goals.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and South Korean President Moon Jae-in set aside a year that saw them seemingly on the verge of war. They grasped hands and strode together across the cracked concrete marking the Koreas' border.

The sight, inconceivable just months ago, may not erase their failure to provide any new measures on a nuclear standoff that has captivated and terrified millions, but it allowed the leaders to step forward toward the possibility of a cooperative future even as they acknowledged a fraught past and the widespread skepticism that, after decades of failed diplomacy, things will be any different this time.

On the nuclear issue, the leaders merely repeated a previous vow to rid the Korean Peninsula of nuclear weapons, kicking one of the world's most pressing issues down the road to a much-anticipated summit between Kim and U.S. President Donald Trump in coming weeks.

Still, the summit produced the spectacle of two men from nations with a deep and bitter history of acrimony grinning from ear to ear after Kim walked over the border



North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, right, and South Korean President Moon Jae-in walk together at the border village of Panmunjom in the Demilitarized Zone, South Korea on Friday.

to greet Moon, becoming the first leader of his nation to set foot on southern soil since the Korean War. Both leaders then briefly stepped together into the North and back to the South.

The summit marks a surreal, whiplash swing in relations for the countries, from nuclear threats and missile tests to intimations of peace and cooperation. Perhaps the change is best illustrated by geography: Kim and Moon's historic handshake and a later 30-minute conversation at a footbridge on the border occurred within walking distance of the spot where a North Korean soldier fled south in a hail

of gunfire last year, and where North Korean soldiers killed two U.S. soldiers with axes in 1976.

Standing next to Moon after the talks ended, Kim faced a wall of cameras beaming his image live to the world and declared that the Koreas are "linked by blood as a family and compatriots who cannot live separately." The leaders also vowed to achieve "a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula through complete denuclearization," something they've said before.

The latest declaration between the Koreas, Kim said, should not repeat the "unfortunate history of past inter-Korean agreements

that only reached the starting line" before becoming derailed.

What happened Friday should be seen in the context of the last year — when the United States, its ally South Korea and North Korea threatened and raged as the North unleashed a torrent of weapons tests — but also in light of the long, destructive history of the rival Koreas, who fought one of the 20th century's bloodiest conflicts and even today occupy a divided peninsula that's still technically in a state of war.

Trump tweeted Friday, "KOREAN WAR TO END!" and said the U.S. "should be very proud of what is now taking place in Korea!" Both Koreas agreed to jointly push for talks this year with the U.S. and also potentially China to officially end the Korean War, which stopped with an armistice that never ended the war.

Many will be judging the summit based on the weak nuclear language. North Korea's nuclear and missile tests last year likely put it on the threshold of becoming a legitimate nuclear power. The North, which has spent decades doggedly building its bombs despite crippling sanctions and near-constant international opprobrium, claims it has already risen to that level.

South Korean conservative politicians criticized the joint statement as letting North Korea off the hook by failing to secure a clear commitment on nuclear disarmament. Liberty Korea Party Chairman Hong Joon-pyo denounced the summit as a "show camouflaged as peace."

But the Koreas made inroads on a raft of other points of friction between them. Moon agreed to visit Pyongyang, North Korea's capital, sometime in the autumn, and both leaders said they'd meet on a regular basis and exchange calls via a recently established hotline.

They agreed to settle their disagreement over their western maritime border by designating it as a peace area and securing fishing activities for both countries. They said they'd open a permanent communication office in the North Korean border town of Kaesong and resume temporary reunions of relatives separated by the 1950-53 Korean War.

"I feel like I'm firing a flare at the starting line in the moment of (the two Koreas) writing a new history in North-South relations, peace and prosperity," Kim told Moon as they sat at a table, which had been built so that exactly 2018 millimeters separated them, to begin their closed-door talks. Moon responded that there were high expectations that they produce an agreement that will be a "big gift to the entire Korean nation and every peace-loving person in the world."

Kim acknowledged the widespread skepticism over their summit. "We have reached big agreements before but were unable to fulfill them. ... There are skeptical views on whether the meeting today will yield meaningful results," Kim said. "If we maintain a firm will and proceed forward hand in hand, it will be impossible at least for things to get worse than they are now."

WORLD BRIEFLY

Britain's new prince is named Louis

LONDON (AP) — The new prince has a name — in fact three.

The infant son of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge has been named Louis Arthur Charles, Kensington Palace announced Friday.

The palace said the baby's full title is His Royal Highness Prince Louis of Cambridge.

William and Kate's third child was born Monday, a brother to 4-year-old Prince George and Princess Charlotte, who is almost 3.

Louis — pronounced LOO-ee — is fifth in line to the throne after his grandfather Prince Charles, his father and his older siblings.

The name pays tribute twice over to Prince Charles, who has Arthur as one of his middle names.

The choice also honors Louis Mountbatten, Charles' great-uncle and beloved mentor, who was killed by an Irish Republican Army bomb in 1979.

Report: Russian lawyer at Trump Tower worked with government

MOSCOW (AP) — An organization established by an exiled Russian tycoon says it has obtained emails

showing collaboration between Russian government officials and the lawyer who met with Donald Trump Jr. in 2016 and has denied having connections to the Kremlin.

The emails the Dossier organization said it was sent suggest Natalia Veselnitskaya worked closely with a top official in Russia's prosecutor-general's office to fend off a U.S. fraud case against one of her clients.

Veselnitskaya has denied connections to the Russian government since her meeting with then-candidate Donald Trump's son, son-in-law Jared Kushner and campaign chairman Paul Manafort surfaced during the investigation of Moscow's meddling in the 2016 presidential election.

The encounter at Trump Tower in New York took place after Donald Trump Jr. was told the Russian lawyer had potentially incriminating information about Trump's election opponent, Hillary Clinton.

Deadly violence erupts again in Gaza at Israeli border fence

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — Hundreds of Palestinians converged on the Gaza Strip's border fence with Israel on Friday, trying to burn and rip through

it before drawing heavy Israeli fire in one of the most violent incidents yet in five weeks of protests. Three Palestinians were killed and dozens were reported wounded.

The Israeli military accused Gaza's Hamas leaders of orchestrating what it called a "serious and irregular" attack and said it would not tolerate similar activity in the future.

The violence came shortly after a top U.N. official urged Israel to refrain from using excessive force. At least 38 protesters have been killed.

FREE SMALL BUSINESS TRAINING

Government Contract Assistance Program (GCAP) Offers Government Contracting Sessions in Pendleton Oregon • **Wednesday, May 14th**

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING BASICS: 8:30 - 11:30 AM

This workshop will introduce you to the basic tools for growing your business by selling to the government. This entry-level class is geared toward small businesses across any industry.

PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT: 1:00 - 4:00 PM

This Proposal Development Workshop will dive into the federal proposal submission process.



Blue Mountain Community College –2411 NW Carden Ave Room: ST-214, Pendleton, OR 97801 • Room: ST-214

Government Contracting Basics- CCB Course Certified #SRA1119 = 3 credits

Proposal Development- CCB Course Certified #SRA1121= 3 credits

FREE but registration is required at www.gcap.org Call Sue LaCroix for info: 541-786-7344 • slacroix@gcap.org



ENERGY COSTS TOO HIGH? TRY LOOKING AT IT IN A DIFFERENT LIGHT.

Want to lower your energy costs? When you update lighting and other equipment, you can see the difference instantly and recoup your investment in no time. Talk to a qualified trade ally to learn about Energy Trust of Oregon cash incentives for all kinds of energy-saving solutions.

Get more from your energy. Visit www.energytrust.org/mybusiness or call us at **1.866.368.7878**.

Serving customers of Portland General Electric, Pacific Power, NW Natural and Cascade Natural Gas.



vote **ROB COLLINS**

MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE PRO TEM | 2000 – PRESENT (18 YRS)
PRIVATE LAW PRACTICE, COLLINS & COLLINS | 1981 – PRESENT (37 YRS)
EXPERIENCED • JUST • KNOWLEDGEABLE • BALANCED

FOR CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

PAID FOR BY ROB COLLINS FOR CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE
71352 HWY 395 S., Pendleton, OR