



White House against Trump's stand on S Korea, Japan acquiring nukes

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He said that Trump's suggestions are directly contrary to the non-proliferation policy that the USA and the worldwide community have long pursued, and the prospect of South Korea and Japan obtaining nuclear weapons would be incredibly destabilizing. "We are better off frankly if South Korea is going to start to protect itself".

It would be hard to imagine justifying North Korea's nuclear weapons development, and promoting an arms race would be ridiculous, the spokesman added, according to South Korean newspaper Hankyoreh.

Hayden called the remarks "very unsettling" because funding for US troops overseas is paid for by allies. If we brought them home, they will be infinitely more expensive to the American taxpayer than they are now because they are substantially supportive by South Korean funding.

Trump, however, failed to properly respond when the host asked whether the view directly contradicts his publicized worries about the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

"The last line where he says and they got to step up or they go to pay us, that actually equates our alliance system with a Staten Island protection racket".

Doug Bandow, a Korea expert and senior fellow at the Cato Institute, said in an article earlier this month that US policymakers "should consider the possibility of a nuclear South Korea", arguing that protecting the South is "not worth creating an unnecessary existential threat to the American homeland".

The North's nuclear and missile tests have led some leading members of South Korea's ruling party to make the case for nuclear armament, arguing that it makes no sense to rely on the U.S.

But the government dismissed the idea, saying it runs counter to the principle of a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula. And you have, Pakistan has them. "A better policy proposal would be to study how best to affirm the value and strength of the U.S. nuclear deterrent to reassure our allies", he said.

"Trump is not yet the nominee, and even if he is the nominee he won't necessarily be president", he told Yonhap. "We're supporting South Korea".

Trump also said at the time that he's willing to withdraw American troops from South Korea and Japan unless the allies shoulder more of the cost necessary for the upkeep of the forces.