

Signs of Turmoil Seen in Post-Post-Cold War World

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Two decades after the end of the Cold War, the year 2011 may become a turning point in international politics. Following the collapse of post-Cold War international order of its domination, the United States, which has served as the world's policeman since the end of World War 2, is now clearly plunging into a kind of isolationism, though maintaining its commitments in East Asia.

U.S. about to withdraw from Afghanistan

The Obama Administration has begun the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq and is set to start the pullout from Afghanistan in July. While Vice President Joseph Biden and other administration leaders, and many Democratic and Republican lawmakers have called for accelerating the pullout from Afghanistan, Defense Secretary Robert Gates and Gen. David Petraeus, U.S. commander in Afghanistan, have raised objection to the pullout and noted that the second half of this year would be a crucial period for sweeping out the Taliban. President Barack Obama will soon make a decision. But he has already promised to start the pullout from Afghanistan in July. May's killing of Al Qaeda leader Osama Bin Laden has become a tailwind for Vice President Biden.

How will a ceasefire agreement be reached? How will the United States and its allies withdraw their troops? Will a provisional government be created? Will the Afghan government coexist with a Taliban government? It is not easy to solve these complicated problems one by one.

Will the United States make an honorable withdrawal or inevitably withdraw from the region without winning a complete victory? How will the world interpret the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan? Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger concluded that the United States plunged into the Korean and Vietnam Wars under national consensus, got disillusioned with battles and looked for an exit with any strategy forgotten. The conclusion represents a sharp analysis.

Be aware of Chinese and Russian moves

We cannot help wondering that Afghanistan could become an excellent base for international terrorists toward the completion of the U.S. withdrawal in 2014. As the United States waged the "fight against international terrorism," China confined independence movements in Uighur into the terrorist genre. Russia did the same thing in Chechnya. The United States tacitly approved their move. How will China and Russia be positioned after the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan? Pakistan, which has

maintained ambivalent relations with the United States, will side with China. In response, India may have no choice but to enhance relations with Russia.

“Revolutions for democracy” in the Middle East have led to “disdemocratization” in Libya and Syria. At the United Nations Security Council and the International Atomic Energy Agency, the United States has harshly criticized Syria, conflicting with China and Russia that have defended Syria. We now see signs of great turmoil in the post-post-Cold War world.

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