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Academy Securities Geopolitical SITREP

Geopolitical Flashpoints: The Macroeconomic Impact of the Geostrategic Landscape

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- North Korea: 00:00 – 6:59
- China: 7:00 – 11:23 and 15:44 – 17:01
- Indonesia 11:24 – 15:43
- Cyber: 17:02 – end

Key Points:

- North Korea:
 - There is likely to be a summit but probably not on June 12th
 - De-escalating North Korea is the main objective
 - There is little chance that an agreement will come from the summit but at least it's opening a line of communication - a good start
 - Denuclearization
 - North Korea is playing a long game and the U.S. wants to play a short game
 - It could take two to six years, or longer, for North Korea to agree to give up its nuclear capabilities
- China:
 - China is hard to predict
 - China will continue to expand its influence through development projects, aid, and its military
 - Beijing will always have influence over the peninsula
 - It's difficult to negotiate with China on trade as they are important to the peace process with North Korea
 - Private industry can help combat Chinese influence
- Indonesia
 - China and Saudi Arabia are in a fight for influence over the world's most populous Muslim-majority nation
 - Government corruption and extremist ideology put the country at risk
- Cyber
 - The only ungoverned domain of war
 - Threats come from both state and non-state actors
 - Private industry advancement is vital to combating cyber threats

Major General (Ret.) James A. "Spider" Marks is Head of Geopolitical Strategy and Academy Securities' Senior Advisory Board Member. General Marks is the Founder and President of The Marks Collaborative, an advisory for corporate leader development, education and training and has led entrepreneurial efforts in global primary research and national security. He served over 30 years in the Army holding every command position from infantry platoon leader to commanding general and was the senior intelligence officer in the LA Riots, the Balkans, Korea, and Operation Iraqi Freedom. He culminated his career as the Commanding General of the U.S. Army Intelligence Center and School at Fort Huachuca, Arizona. He has been awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf cluster, Bronze Star, and multiple combat, expeditionary and service ribbons. General Marks is a Master parachutist, authorized to wear Korean and Canadian Airborne wings, Air Assault qualified, and Honor Graduate of the U.S. Army Ranger School. General Marks is a national security contributor to CNN and member of the Military Intelligence Hall of Fame.

Major General (Ret.) Mastin Robeson served over 34 years on active duty in the United States Marine Corps, during which time he served in more than 60 countries, including in combat zones in Liberia, Desert Storm, Somalia, Bosnia, Horn of Africa, Southern Philippines, Iraq, and Afghanistan. He commanded at every operational level including the Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command. He served as Military Assistant to Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen and as General Dave Petraeus' Director of Strategy, Plans, and Assessments in Iraq, where he was responsible for writing and assessing the 2007 Crocker/Petraeus surge campaign plan. Since 2010, General Robeson has been President and CEO of TRGSolutions, a consulting firm that has assisted more than 27 companies in business development, marketing strategy and planning, executive leadership and decision-making, and crisis management. He also speaks on leadership and corporate culture transformation, and he continues to support studies and education efforts in Africa, the Middle East, South America.

Peter Tchir is head of Macro Strategy at Academy Securities. He has 25 years in the industry focusing on fixed income. He has traded and structured products ranging from complex transactions, junk bonds, liquid CDS indices, and ETFs. This background helps bring a unique frame of reference to his market strategies and analysis. It helps him focus on what is relevant for the here and now for investors and issuers. He has worked closely with a wide range of investors and portfolio managers since he established TF Market Advisors as an independent firm in 2010. He is regularly quoted in the media for his views on the macro outlook and fixed income strategies. His expertise provides insight into risk and identifying opportunities on a global macro basis, with an emphasis on fixed income. As the Head of Macro Strategy, Peter communicates these opportunities and approaches effectively to customers. Peter received a B.S. in mathematics and computer sciences from the University of Waterloo and an MBA with distinction from Vanderbilt University, where he also won the Matt Wiggington Leadership Award for outstanding performance in finance.

Rachel Washburn is an Associate of Geopolitical Strategy at Academy Securities. Rachel served six years in the U.S. Army as an Intelligence Officer. While serving, Rachel deployed twice to Afghanistan; first as a member of the pioneer Cultural Support Team attached to Special Forces and second as an intelligence Platoon Leader. Since leaving the Army in 2016, Rachel continued to pursue a career addressing global security and instability, most recently acting as a regional director with a nonprofit focused on bringing relief in the wake of disasters and armed conflicts. Rachel is a graduate of Drexel University.

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