By Alastair Tancred

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- Kissinger, 94, warned that North Korean I denuclearization was vital
- He said that relations with Kim Jong-un's country have reached a key juncture

- The U.S. must now choose between pre-emptive military action or increasingly tighter sanctions, he said

- His warning came before North Korea warned that the U.S. is pushing the whole world towards a 'nuclear war'

Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger has said that the temptation to launch a pre-emptive strike on <u>North Korea</u> 'is strong and the argument rational'.

He told a meeting of the Senate Armed Services Committee last week that North Korea poses the most immediate threat to global security, arguing that denuclearization of the regime must be a 'fundamental' American foreign policy goal.

The veteran diplomat was speaking before North Korea warned that the U.S. is pushing the whole world towards a 'nuclear war' in its latest letter submitted to the UN.

