

THE ORIGINS OF NORTH KOREAN NUCLEAR AMBITIONS OF TRAUMATISING THE WORLD 1950-2017

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Biography of the Author:-

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Abstract:-

During the 1950s, the principle of nuclear threat was actually applied by the capitalist and Communist backed by United States of America (U.S.A) and Union of the Soviet Socialist Republic (U.S.S.R) in both Northern and Southern Korea during the Korean War which lasted from 1950 to 1953 with the signing of an armistice. But U.S. forces strongly inflicted waste to North Korean targets, dropping tons of bombs and napalm, which killed over 20 percent of the Korean population. Therefore, the advancement of North Korean nuclear building and testing is the result of over half a century of steadily accumulated scientific know-how and single-minded subterfuge, taking advantage of lax regulations and shady foreign partners to hoodwink the international non-proliferation regime to prepare any further aggression from whom so ever. North Korea has shown that she is dedicated to acquiring nuclear weapons, and it is very hard to stop any country that is completely dedicated. In fact, the combination of such radical military diplomatic strategies, sale of missile technologies and the export of coal and minerals have enabled North Korea to be able to finance its nuclear procurement the way it desired. North Korea is very creative in the way that it goes about sanctions evasion, and the patterns in which it goes about it vary. For example, North Korea often sends trusted nationals to China to set up front companies, often in collaboration with Chinese citizens. These companies then import equipment from Western manufacturers, who often have no way of knowing that the companies are really fronts controlled by the North Korean regime. This enable the country to be more advance in terms of manufacturing and launching of atomic bombs in Asia to frighten a lone HyperSuper power (United States of America) the rest of the World. The present article intends to sort out clearly what provoked North Korea to be aggressively building up and testing her atomic bombs spanning from 1950 to 2017. We decided to use the methodology of collecting evidence from specialized journals, magazines, websites, and other relevant sources which can be useful to tackle the main problem of the present article. Our findings show that the phenomenon of Korean nuclear threats is link to massive terrorist practices in the Asian Continent which has been affecting nearly all other continents in the 21st Century.

Key Words:- *North Korea, Nuclear test, Traumatism, Violation, sanctions, Terrorism*

INTRODUCTION

By 1905, Japan had thwarted Chinese and Russian bids for influence over the Korean Peninsula and felt comfortable in demanding of Korea a relationship to her benefit. The 1905 Taft-Katsura agreement in effect gave tacit U.S. approval to the Japanese colonization of the peninsula in exchange for Japanese recognition of U.S. influence over the Philippines. Without opposition in Korea, in November 1905 Japan concluded a treaty with King Kojong, making Korea a protectorate and giving herself control over Korea's foreign relations and external matters. The Japanese resident general also slowly took over internal affairs. With the forced abdication of the king in 1907, his son Suk Jong took the throne. Japan pressured him to abdicate three years later and formally annexed the country in April 1910. Both treaties were signed in secret; the king and his ministers were so weak by now that they feared the Japanese more than the retribution of their own people. With an official stamp of approval, Japan acquired Korea without a shot calling the peninsula "Chosen", ruled it from 1910 to 1945.

In 1945, Japan's colonial rule over Korea ended with its Second World War surrender and Korea was divided in 1948 between the Soviet-backed North and the US-backed South. Between 1950 and 1953, the Korean War became one of the main principal tests of the EastWest Conflicts of the Cold War with its founding President Kim Il-sung who later died in 1994 succeeded by his son Kim Jong-Il. In 2002 - US names North Korea as part of an "Axis of Evil"⁴ in a stand-off between the West and North Korea which lasts for decades. Image caption North Korean troops are taken prisoner by US marines in the Korean War, which pitted the Chinese-backed North against the South, supported militarily by the United Nations (UN) after withdrawing from the Nuclear Proliferation Treaty in 2003, North Korea has gone on to conduct several nuclear tests, in September 2016 and April 2017

1. THE LOCATION KOREAN PENEINSULA AND CAUSES OF NUCLEAR THREATS

This section deals with the location and causes of nuclear threats in the Korean peninsula.

1.1 Location of North and South Korean in Asia

The Korean Peninsula, located between the Sea of Japan and the Yellow Sea. Being a part of the Korean Peninsula, North Korea geography is similar to most of the East Asian countries. With the ending of the Second World War, the Korean Peninsula came to be divided along the Thirty-Eighth Parallel and the border between North and South Korea formed the line of distinction between the two regions of Korea.

Vital parts of North Korea shares its border with three states, with Russia along the Tumen River, China along the Yalu River and South Korea along the Korean Demilitarized Zone. On the West Coast is the Yellow Sea and the Korea Bay and the Sea of Japan is off the east coast. North Korea geography divides the region into two separate regions, the P'yongan-do Province in the North-West and the Hamgyong-do Province in the North - East. The P'yong-an-do Province in the North-West is often known as the Kwanso Region and has a larger region of flatlands while the Hamgyong-do Province in the North-East is referred to as Kwanbuk. The North Korea physical location of P'yong-an-do Province allows it to serve as a major agricultural area while Hamgyong-do Province due to the mountainous North-Korea geography of this region acts as a center of mining and forestry. To the south of the O'yongan-do Province lies another important region of North Korea geography, the Hwanghae-do Province. Generally, North Korea geography causes the place to have a continental climate. Long winters with bitter cold and clear weather interspersed with snow storms are typical of the region. The summer months tends to be short, hot, humid, and rainy because of the southern and southeastern monsoon winds that bring moist air from the Pacific Ocean. The Capital of The Democratic People's Republic of Korea is Pyongyang with an estimated population of 24.5 million. Its main language is Korean, major religions mainly atheist or non-religious, traditional beliefs life expectancy is between 66 and 72 years¹¹ for men and women respectively. Kim Jong-Un is the third supreme leader in the Kim dynasty, founded by his grandfather Kim IL-Sung, the country's leader at the time of its establishment. Kim Jong-Un took over from his father Kim Jong-Il when he died from a heart attack in December 2011. Under Kim Jong-Un, North Korea has continued its policy of promoting the military at home while sending mixed signals to the rest of the world about its nuclear programme. See Maps 1 and 2 below for actual location of the Koreans.

1.2 CAUSES OF THE KOREAN PROBLEM OF TRAUMATISING THE WORLD WITH NUCLEAR THREATS

This section deals with types of nuclear testing and what provoked North Korea to embark on such unhealthy international risks as a traumatizer of the whole world and its enemies since the second half of the twentieth Century.

MAP 1. THE GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATIONS OF NORTH KOREA IN ASIA



SOURCE: Why North Korea and South Korea Are Separated |

1.2.1 TYPES OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTS

Nuclear explosions have been detonated in all environments namely, above ground, underground and underwater. Bombs have been detonated on top of towers, onboard barges, suspended from balloons, on the earth's surface, underwater to depths of 600meters, underground to depths of more than 2,400meters and in horizontal tunnels. Test bombs have been dropped by aircraft and fired by rockets to altitudes of over 500 kilometers. Firstly, Atmospheric testing refers to explosions which take place in the atmosphere. There have been over 2,000 nuclear explosions detonated worldwide between 16 July 1945 and 29 July 1996 with principal actors spotted to be U.S and China. For example, 25 percent or over 500 bombs were exploded in the atmosphere within this period with U.S and U.S.S.R having over 200 cases of explosions respectively, about 50 by France, 20 by Britain, and over 20 by China International concern over radioactive fallout resulting from atmospheric tests escalated in the mid-1950s. Atmospheric testing was banned by the 1963 Partial Test Ban Treaty

MAP 2: THE DIVISION OF KOREA IN THE 38 PARALLEL INTO NORTH AND SOUTH KOREAS IN 1948
ORIENTATION Yellow colour is North Korea Pink colour is South Korea Yellow color is the Yellow Sea Red Star indicate the Capital of North Korea



SOURCE: North Korea, South Korea, Asia Pacific, Info graphic, Two Koreas:

History at a Glance: A Brief History of How North and South Korea got to where they are today. 27 April 2017.

Negotiations had largely responded to the international community's grave concern over the radioactive fallout resulting from atmospheric tests

Secondly, high-altitude nuclear testing refers to main explosions, detonated at heights between 40 and 540 kilometers, to determine the feasibility of nuclear weapons as antiballistic missile defense or anti-satellite weapons. An example of

this type was the largest such test by U.S in 1962 with a capacity of 1.4 megaton U.S. Starfish Prime test¹ which damaged and destroyed several of the satellites in orbit at the time and led to wide-spread power outages on the ground. High-altitude or outer space nuclear testing was equally banned by the 1963 Partial Test Ban Treaty as well as by the 1967 Outer Space Treaty

Thirdly, underwater testing refers to explosions which take place underwater or close to the surface of the water. The underwater nuclear explosions close to the surface can disperse large amounts of radioactive water and steam, contaminating nearby ships, structures and individuals. The first example of underwater nuclear test known as “Baker was conducted by the U.S in 1946 at its Pacific Proving Grounds in the Marshall Islands with the purpose of evaluating the effects of nuclear weapons used against naval vessels. Later, in 1955, the United States’ Operation Wigwam conducted a single underwater nuclear test at a depth of 600 meters to determine the vulnerability of submarines to nuclear explosions. Underwater nuclear testing was banned by the 1963 Partial Test Ban Treaty. Over 2,000 nuclear explosions detonated worldwide between 1945 and 1996, 25 percent of bombs were exploded in the atmosphere

Fourthly, the underground testing means that nuclear explosions are detonated at varying depths under the surface of the earth. When the explosion is fully contained, underground nuclear testing emits negligible fallout compared to atmospheric testing. However, if underground nuclear tests "vent" to the surface they can produce considerable radioactive debris. Underground testing is usually evident through seismic activity related to the yield of the nuclear device. The seismic data is combined with radionuclide data. Only the radionuclide technology can determine if an explosion is nuclear in origin; its stations and laboratories around the world monitor the presence of particulates and/or noble gases in the atmosphere. Prominent examples of this type were used during the Cold War between 1945 and 1989, with over 800 and 500 of all tests conducted by the U.S and U.S.S.R respectively. However, underground nuclear testing was banned by the 1996 Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) that bans all nuclear explosions anywhere, by anyone as about 75 percent of all nuclear explosions have been conducted underground.

TABLE1. SIGNIFICANT PROVOCATIVE NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS 1945-2013

NO	Date	Description	Estimated Yield	Type	Name	Location
1	16 July 1945	U.S. tests first nuclear device	~20 kt	Plutonium implosion	Trinity Alamogordo,	New Mexico, USA
2	6 August 1945	Little Boy dropped on Hiroshima	~13 kt	HEU gun-type	Little Boy	Hiroshima, Japan
3	9 August 1945	Fat Man dropped on Nagasaki	~21 kt	Plutonium implosion	Fat Man	Nagasaki, Japan
4	25 July 1946	U.S. conducts first underwater test	~23 kt	Plutonium implosion	Crossroads Baker	Bikini Atoll, Marshall Islands
6	29 August 1949	U.S.S.R. tests first nuclear weapon	~21 kt	Plutonium	Joe 1 (name given by the United States)	Semipalatinsk, Kazakhstan
7	3 October 1952	United Kingdom tests first nuclear weapon	~20 kt	Plutonium implosion	Hurricane	Monte Bello Islands, Australia
8	1 November 1952	U.S. tests first thermonuclear device	~10.4 MT	Thermonuclear Ivy Mike	Enewetak Atoll,	Marshall Islands
9	1 March 1954	U.S. tests first deliverable thermonuclear weapon	~14.8 MT	Thermonuclear	Castle Bravo	Bikini Atoll, Marshall Islands
10	22 November 1955	U.S.S.R. tests its first thermonuclear weapon	~1.6 MT	Thermonuclear	Joe 19 (name given by the United States)	Semipalatinsk, Kazakhstan
11	15 May 1957	U.K. tests its first thermonuclear weapon	~200-300 kt	Thermonuclear	Grapple),	Christmas Island (Kiritimati) South Pacific
12	19 September 1957	U.S. conducts first fully contained underground nuclear test	~1.7 kt	Composite pit implosion	Plumbbob Rainier Nevada Test Site	USA
13	8 November 1957	U.K. tests its first successful thermonuclear weapon	~1.8 MT	thermonuclear	Grapple X	Christmas Island (Kiritimati), South

¹ U.S. conducts Sedan test as part of the Plowshare Program ~104 kt, thermonuclear Storax Sedan Nevada Test Site, USA, July 1962.

						Pacific
14	13, February 1960	France tests its first nuclear weapon	~60-70 kt	Plutonium implosion	Gerboise Bleue	Reganne, Algeria
15	30 October 1961	U.S.S.R. conducts Tsar Bomba test, the biggest nuclear explosion world	~50-58 MT	thermonuclear	Tsar Bomba	Novaya Zemlya, Russia
16	6 July 1962	U.S. conducts Sedan test as part of the Plowshare Program	~104 kt	Thermonuclear	Storax Sedan	Nevada Test Site, USA
17	9 July 1962	U&	1.45 mt	Thermonuclear	Starfish Prime	Lower Outer Space
18	16 October 1964	China tests its first nuclear weapon	~22 kt	HEU implosion	596 Lop Nur,	China
19	17 June 1967	China tests its first thermonuclear weapon	~3.3 MT	Thermonuclear	CHIC-6 Lop Nur	China
20	24 August 1968	France tests its first successful thermonuclear weapon	~2.6 MT	Thermonuclear	Canopus Fangataufa Atoll,	South Pacific
21	18 May 1974	India tests its first explosive nuclear device	~12-15 kt	Plutonium implosion	Smiling Buddha Rajasthan	India
22	24 October 1990	Last U.S.S.R nuclear test	~1 T	Low-yield test	(715th test)	Novaya Zemlya, Russia
23	26 November 1991	Last U.K. nuclear test	~11 kt	Low-yield option of variable-yield thermonuclear device	Julin Bristol (45th test)	Nevada Test Site, USA
24	23 September 1992	Last U.S. nuclear test	~5 kT	Safety experiment	Ulin Divider (1,032nd test)	Nevada Test Site, USA
25	27 January 1996	Last French nuclear test	~120 kt	Thermonuclear	Xouthos (210th test)	Fangataufa Atoll, South Pacific
26	29 July 1996	Last Chinese nuclear test	~1-5 kt	Low-yield test	(45th test)	Lop Nur, China
27	11 May 1998	India conducts a nuclear test (three nuclear devices)	~45 kt total	Thermonuclear device (?),	plutonium implosion, low-yield test Shakti	Pokhran Desert, India
28	13 May 1998	India conducts a nuclear test (two nuclear devices)	<1 kt	Low-yield tests	Shakti	Pokhran Desert, India
29	28 May 1998	Pakistan conducts a nuclear test (five nuclear devices)	~9-12 kt total	HEU fission device, boosted fission device	3 low-yield tests Chagai-I Ras Koh,	Pakistan
30	30 May 1998	Pakistan conducts a nuclear test (one nuclear device)	~4-6 kt	HEU fission device	Chagai-I Ras Koh	Pakistan
31	9 October 2006	DPRK announces that it has conducted a first nuclear test	magnitude 4.1	Plutonium implosion	Hwadae-ri	Korea
32	25 May 2009	DPRK announces that it has conducted a second nuclear test	magnitude 4.52	Plutonium implosion	Hwadae-ri	Korea
33	12 February 2013	DPRK announces that it has conducted a third nuclear test	Magnitude 4.9	Plutonium implosion	-----	-----

SOURCE: compiled by us with information from: <http://www.wtol.com/story/35273991/seoul-n-korea-fails-in-missile-test-fire-near-its-capital>., "Chronology of U.S.-North Korean Nuclear and Missile Diplomacy". Arms Control Association. 2017-03-28. Archived from the original on April 3, 2017. Retrieved 2017-04-02. <http://www.wtol.com/story/35273991/seoul-n-korea-fails-in-missile-test-fire-near-its-capital>

1.2.2 RUTHLESS JAPANESE COLONIAL STRATEGIES AND PARTITIONED OF KOREA

The Korean peninsula was a united territory under the Joseon dynasty that ruled over the region for more than 500 years, starting from 1392 after the fall of the Goryeo dynasty. This rule came to an end in 1910, with the Japanese annexation of Korea as Japan's colony, Korea was under a cruel Japanese rule for 35 years from 1910 to 1945, a time when Koreans struggled to preserve their culture. During the Japanese rule, the teaching of Korean history and language was not allowed in schools, people were asked to adopt Japanese names and use Japanese as their language. The Japanese even burned down many documents pertaining to Korea's history. Farming was primarily directed towards fulfilling the demands of Japan. After Japan's defeat in World War II, Koreans aspired to be a free nation but were little aware of what they were going to suffer next. A nation's division is not just a line on its geographical map; it carves through the hearts of its people. Those who were united for centuries stand separated forced to acknowledge the political division over the bond of relations, language, and culture. Pictures from the heart-warming reunion of Korean families in February 2014 reflect the pain of the generation that witnessed the divide and were separated from their loved ones. Newer generations identify themselves as North Koreans and South Koreans. Today, what remains is the heavily guarded Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) between the North Korea and South Korea. The 38th Parallel as indicated on Map 2 was the most pertinent questions regarding the split of the Korean peninsula. Japan was on the verge of surrender in 1945, and the USSR was advancing ahead through Korea, crushing the Japanese army when the news of Japan's surrender broke out. The U.S at that point did not have a base in Korea and feared full takeover of the peninsula by the Soviet forces. The absence of U.S troops was mainly due to a miscalculation of when Japan would surrender.

To restrict the USSR from seizing the entire peninsula, the U.S suggested a temporary division of the Korean peninsula between the U.S and U.S.S.R. U.S army Colonels Charles Bone Steel and Dean Rusk (the future US Secretary of State) were asked to review and suggest a dividing line on the Korean map. At that time, U.S troops were 500 miles away, while the Soviet troops were already present in Korea's Northern region. The two U.S army officers were given about thirty minutes to suggest a dividing line. They picked the naturally prominent Thirty-Eighth parallel to mark the division of the region. The colonels tried to ensure that the demarcation was prominent enough and Seoul was on their side. Since the suggestion was accepted by the U.S.S.R, it restricted the Soviet troops to the Thirty-Eighth parallel while U.S troops eventually gained dominance in the South. At this point, the divide was meant to be a provisional administration arrangement and Korea was to be brought back together under a new government.

The differing political ideologies that existed within Korea were further polarized under the influence of the respective superpowers in charge of the region. The Soviets backed communism and the U.S favoured capitalism. In 1947, the United Nations was to oversee the elections in both North and South to form one democratically elected government. There was a significant lack of trust and the planned election could never happen successfully. The elections were blocked in North by the Soviets, who instead supported communist leader Kim Il Sung as the head of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). The scenario was not very different in the South, where Syngman Rhee was supported by the U.S as the leader of the Republic of Korea (ROK).

Though both leaders believed in the reunification of Korea, their ideologies were not only different, but also opposing. A year later, as a part of a U.N agreement, both the U.S and Soviet Union were to withdraw their armies from the peninsula. Though it did happen, there was still a large presence in the form of advisors and diplomats from both the superpowers. (Related reading, see: China's Push for Investment in North Korea) The newly separated regions were often indulging in skirmishes across the dividing line but there were no formal attacks till 1950. In mid-1950, DPRK, backed by the Soviets, saw a chance to unite the entire peninsula under communist rule and launched an attack on ROK. The DPRK army in a span of three-four months engulfed the entire peninsula. However, as the UN intervened, troops from around 15 nations (with a majority from the US) came as reinforcement for South Korea. Matters complicated further when China backed DPRK. In 1953, fighting ended in an armistice, giving birth to the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), a heavily guarded border almost along the Thirty-Eighth Parallel.

Neither the planned moves by the superpowers nor the devastating Korean War could reunite Korea. As a consequence, North Korea and South Korea are not only separated politically and geographically, but almost seven decades of separation has turned them into different worlds. South Korea is among the trillion-dollar economies while North's population still survives on aid. The two nations have different citizen's rights²⁹, laws and order, economies, societies, and daily life. But the history of thousands of years of Korea as a unified nation will always be a reminder of its arbitrary division² thereby provoking unrest less preparations for any future war launched by their former colonial dictators alongside the U.S. and U.S.S.R. After withdrawing from the Nuclear Proliferation Treaty in 2003, North Korea has gone on to conduct several nuclear tests, in September 2016 and April 2017.

2. PRINCIPAL THIRTY ONE INSTANCES OF NORTH KOREAN NUCLEAR THREATS

There have been some thirty one attempts of North Korean missile tests. North Korea has also fired a number of short-range missiles into the Sea of Japan (East Sea of Korea), in what have been interpreted as political gestures.

² Ibid.

TABLE 2. THIRTY ONE NORTH KOREAN NUCLEAR DIPLOMATIC ATTEMPTS 1976-2017

NO.	YEARS	NATURE AND PLACE OF TESTING OF BOMBS
1	1976-81	North Korea commences its missile development program using Scud-B from the Soviet Union and a launchpad from Egypt.
2	1984	First Scud-B missile test firing.
3	1988	Operational deployment of Scud-B and Scud-C missiles.
4	1990	First Rodong missile test.
5	May 29-30, 1993	North Korean missile test Nodong.
6	1998	North Korea fires off its first ballistic missile, the Unha-1 rocket, also known as the Taepodong-1 missile, from the launch site of Musudan-ri in North Hamgyong Province.
7	1999	North Korea agrees to a moratorium on long-range missile tests.
8	2002-2003 -	North Korea pledges to extend moratorium on missile tests beyond 2003.
9	2004 -.2005	North Korea reaffirms moratorium.
10	2005	North Korea fires short-range missile into Sea of Japan.
11	July 5, 2006	North Korean missile test Taepodong failed.
12	April 5, 2009	Failed orbit of the Kwangmyŏngsŏng-2 satellite aboard an Unha-2 carrier rocket.
13	July 4, 2009	North Korean missile test.
14	April 13, 2012	Failed launch of the Kwangmyŏngsŏng-3 satellite aboard an Unha-3 carrier rocket.
15	December 12, 2012	Successful launch of the Kwangmyŏngsŏng-3 Unit 2 satellite aboard a three stage rocket.
16	May 18-202013	North Korean missile tests, part of Korean crisis.
17	March 014	North Korean missile tests including Nodong, success
18	May 2015	North Korea claims to launch a missile from a submarine.
19	February 7,2016	Successful launch of the Kwangmyŏngsŏng-4 satellite.
20	April, 2016	Test of engine designed for an intercontinental ballistic missile.
21	August 2016	North Korea claims to launch a Pukguksong-1 missile capable of striking the United States.
22	October 15,2016	Failed North Korean ballistic missile launch.
23	October 19,2016	Failed launch of a intermediate range missile.
24	February 11, 2017	North Korea test-fired a Pukguksong-2 missile over the Sea of Japan. This was the first launch of the new medium-range ballistic missile.
25	March 2017	North Korea launches four ballistic missiles from the Tongchang-ri launch site in the northwest. Some flew 620 mi (1,000 km) before falling into the Sea of Japan.
26	April 4, 2017	North Korea test-fired a medium-range ballistic missile from its eastern port of Sinpo into the Sea of Japan.
27	April 15, 2017	North Korea test-fired an unidentified land-based missile from the naval base in Sinpo but it exploded almost immediately after the takeoff.
28	April 28, 2017	North Korea test-fired an unidentified missile from Pukchang airfield Missile, believed to be a medium-range KN-17 ballistic missile, falters and breaks apart minutes after liftoff.
29	May 13, 2017	North Korea test-fired an unidentified missile from a test site on the country's West Coast. The missile, later revealed to be an intermediate range ballistic missile, traveled 30 minutes, reached an altitude of more than 2,111.5 km, and flew a horizontal distance of 789 km (489 miles), before falling into the Sea of Japan.
30	May 21, 2017-	North Korea test-fired another Pukguksong-2 medium-range ballistic missile from Pukchang airfield which traveled approximately 300 miles before falling into the Sea of Japan. The missile landed about 217 miles from North Korea's east coast.
31	May 29, 2017 -	North Korea Fired a Short Range Ballistic Missile into the Sea of Japan , It traveled 450 km.

SOURCE: Compiled by us with information from the following:

"Pyongyang's short-range ballistic missile flies 450 km, lands in Sea of Japan – S. Korean military". RT International. Retrieved 29 May 2017, "Chronology of U.S.-North Korean Nuclear and Missile Diplomacy". Arms Control Association. 2017-03-28. Archived from the original on April 3, 2017. Retrieved 2017-04-02.

"Chronology of North Korea's Missile Program".NPR.org. 2006-07-05.Archived from the original on April 3, 2017. Retrieved April 15, 2017 <https://www.wsj.com/articles/north-koreafiresunidentified-projectile-south-korea-says->

[1495357350](https://www.nytimes.com/2017/05/21/world/asia/north-korea-missile.html), <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/05/21/world/asia/north-korea-missile.html>.
<http://www.cnn.com/2017/05/21/asia/north-korea-fires-unidentified-projectile/index.html>, Consulted, June 1, 2017.

One of the worst situation of nuclear testing by North Korea occurred on February 7, 2016 as indicated on table 1 above, roughly a month after an alleged hydrogen bomb test, North Korea claimed to have put a satellite into low Earth orbit. Japanese Prime Minister Shinzō Abe had warned the North to not launch the rocket, and if it did and the rocket violated Japanese territory, it would be shot down. Nevertheless, North Korea launched the rocket anyway, claiming the satellite was purely intended for peaceful, scientific purposes. Several nations, including the United States, Japan, and South Korea, have criticized the launch, and despite North Korean claims that the rocket was for peaceful purposes, it has been heavily criticized as an attempt to perform an ICBM test under the guise of a peaceful satellite launch. China also criticized the launch however urged "the relevant parties" to "refrain from taking actions that may further escalate tensions on the Korean peninsula". While some North Korean pronouncements have been treated with skepticism and ridicule, analysts are treating the unusual pace of North Korean rocket and nuclear testing in early 2016 quite seriously. Admiral Bill Gortney, head of the North American Aerospace Defense Command, told Congress in March 2016, "however, Kim Jong Un has the capability to miniaturize a nuclear weapon and put it on an ICBM," suggesting a major shift from a few years earlier.³ North Korea appeared to launch a missile test from a submarine on 23 April 2016; while the missile only traveled 30 km, one U.S. analyst noted that "North Korea's sub launch capability has gone from a joke to something very serious" while North Korea conducted multiple missile tests in 2016 North Korea launched an intermediate-range ballistic missile on Sunday, the first test since a new President, Moon Jae took office in South Korea and called for dialogue with the North.

This was the North's first missile test since a launch on April 29 2017, which was considered a failure, with the unidentified projectile exploding a few minutes after liftoff. Under a series of United Nations Security Council resolutions, the country is banned from developing or testing ballistic missiles. The missile took off from the northwestern city of Kusong and flew more than 430 miles before landing in the sea between North Korea and Japan, the South Korean military said in a statement. Data on the launch was still being analyzed by the South to determine the type of missile. Missile was fired at 5:39 a.m. from an area near Wonsan, Kangwon Province, South Korea stated that Japan said "it's ready to take "concrete action" in conjunction with U.S against North Korea launched a ballistic missile test Monday, its third in less than three weeks It was a new ballistic missile that can carry a large, heavy nuclear warhead, warning that the United States' military bases in the Pacific were within its range. North Korea launched what American officials called an intermediate-range ballistic missile on Sunday from the northwestern town of Kusong The missile, believed to have a longer range than any other North Korean missile tested so far, landed in the sea between the North and Japan, sparking angry comments from President Trump, as well as from President Moon Jae-in of South Korea and Prime Minister Shinzo Abe of Japan the North's official Korean Central News Agency said on Monday that the new ground-to-ground missile, Hwasong-12, hit the targeted open water 489 miles away after soaring to an altitude of 1,312 miles The missile was launched at a deliberately high angle so it would not fall too close to a neighboring country; the news agency said. The flight data announced by the North roughly matched that released by Japanese and South Korean officials hours after the launch

3. INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS AND VIOLATIONS BY NORTH KOREA

US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson warned earlier on Friday that failure to curb North Korea's nuclear and ballistic missile programs could lead to 'catastrophic consequences,' while China and Russia rebuked Washington's threat of military force, Reuters reports. The showdown in a meeting of the UN Security Council on North Korea highlighted the diplomatic challenges of resolving tensions over Pyongyang, with the Trump administration aggressively pressing Beijing to rein in its ally, and China and Russia pushing back against Washington's rhetoric. Rex Tillerson: US looking to China for help with North Korea Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi told the 15-member council it was not only up to China to solve the North Korean problem. "The key to solving the nuclear issue on the peninsula does not lie in the hands of the Chinese side,"⁴ Wang told the council in blunt remarks that Tillerson later rebuffed. Donald Trump, the US president, said that North Korea "disrespected the wishes of China" with the missile test. On Friday, Rex Tillerson, the US secretary of state, warned that failure to curb North Korea's nuclear and ballistic missile programmes could lead to "catastrophic consequences". He called for a greater enforcement of UN sanctions against North Korea and requested the help of the rest of the world in pressuring North Korea to step back from its military threats. North Korea's military arsenal .China said it was not only up to Beijing to solve the North Korean problem. "The key to solving the nuclear issue on the peninsula does not lie in the hands of the Chinese side," Wang Yi, the Chinese foreign minister said Japan protested the latest missile launch by North Korea. Japanese government spokesman Yoshihide Suga said the ballistic missile firing would be "a clear violation of UN security council resolutions." He added that Japan "cannot accept repeated provocation by North Korea" and had "lodged a strong protest against North Korea. "Japan has become increasingly concerned in recent weeks about the possibility of a North Korean missile attack targeting Japan or US forces stationed in Japan. U.S. 'could speed up North Korea sanctions in response to missile test.' Quoting an American official, Reuters is reporting that the Trump administration could respond to North Korea's latest failed missile test by speeding up its plans for new U.S. sanctions against Pyongyang, including possible measures against specific North Korean and Chinese entities

³ North Korea 'test-fires submarine-launched missile'. BBC News. 9 May 2015. Retrieved 2 April 2017.

⁴ Tokyo, Tom Phillips Justin McCurry, "North Korea Launches Missile but Test Ends in Failure" in; *Agencies – via The Guardian*, April 16, 2017.

With North Korea acting in defiance of pressure from the United States and North Korea's main ally, China, Washington could also conduct new naval drills and deploy more ships and aircraft in the region as a show of force, the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity. "It's possible that something could be sped up," he official said of the potential for imposing a limited package of targeted sanctions on North Korea. "Something that's ready to go could be taken from the larger package and expedited. The source said the ballistic missile launch was the kind of "provocation" that had been anticipated ahead of South Korea's May 9 election, and President Donald Trump could use the test-firing to further press China to do more to rein in North Korea. U.S. Officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the missile fired from a region north of Pyongyang was probably a medium-range missile known as a KN-17 and appear to have broken up within minutes of taking off. Should North Korea test-fire an intercontinental ballistic missile as it has threatened, Washington would consider it a more dangerous milestone, the administration official told Reuters, suggesting it would draw a much tougher U.S. response. The Trump administration is especially worried about Pyongyang's work to develop a nuclear-tipped missile capable of hitting the United States. Washington is also watching closely for the possibility of North Korea's sixth nuclear test.⁴⁹

An undated file photo made available by the North Korean Central News Agency (KCNA), the state news agency of North Korea, on 7 March 2017, shows four projectiles during a ballistic rocket launching drill of Hwasong artillery units of the Strategic Force of the Korean People's Army (KPA) at an undisclosed location. Credit, KCNA.⁵⁰ North Korea test-fires ballistic missile, Trump says North Korea 'disrespected the wishes of China', Reports Pyongyang saying war 'imminent', North Korea: attempts to get rid of nuclear weapons 'wild dream' and North Korea could develop a missile capable of reaching the U.S warns Homeland Security Secretary

North Korea test-fired a ballistic missile in the early hours of Saturday morning, reports in South Korea said, amid rising military tensions with the U.S. The missile, launched from a region north of the capital, Pyongyang, appeared to have blown up a few seconds into flight, South Korea's Yonhap news agency said. U.S officials said the missile did not leave North Korean territory and was probably a medium-range missile known as a KN-17⁵². It was the second failed test of a ballistic missile this month and came amid a flurry of rhetoric from North Korea, warning of "imminent" war against the US. "North Korea fired an unidentified missile from a site in the vicinity of Bukchang in Pyeongannam-do (South Pyeongan Province) early this morning," Yonhap reported, quoting a statement issued by South Korea's military. "It is estimated to have failed."

North Korea 'could develop a missile capable of reaching the U.S' warns Homeland Security Secretary. John Kelly, the Homeland Security Secretary, has given a stark assessment of the threat posed by Pyongyang. Previous administrations had tried and failed to persuade the North Koreans to behave more responsible, John Kelly he told CNN. "They tried and failed, I don't blame them. It has fallen under this president that they will have a workable missile that can reach the U.S., though not all of it. This image made from video of a still image broadcast in a news bulletin by North Korea's KRT on Wednesday, April 26, 2017, shows what was said to be a "Combined Fire Demonstration" held to celebrate the 85th anniversary of the North Korean army, in Wonsan, North Korea. Credit: KRT via AP Video. North Korea's deputy U.N ambassador responded by stating U.S efforts to get rid of his country's nuclear weapons through military threats and sanctions were "a wild dream". Trump told Reuters in an interview on Thursday that a "major, major conflict" with North Korea was possible over its nuclear and ballistic missile programmes. An undated photograph released by the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) on 26 April 2017 shows the combined fire demonstration of the services of the Korean People's Army in celebration of its 85th founding anniversary, at an undisclosed location in North Korea. Credit: KCNA. France's Ambassador to the United Nations Francois Delattre. Credit, Timothy Clary/AFP. North Korea fired the missile hours after the Security Council held a ministerial meeting on Pyongyang's escalating weapons program. North Korean officials boycotted the meeting, which was chaired by U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson. Delattre says the council must be "very firm" implementing sanctions, adopting new ones if necessary and denouncing North Korea's human rights record. South Korea presidential front-runner says North Korea's missile launch futile. The front-runner in South Korea's presidential election sees North Korea's latest attempted missile launch on Saturday as "an exercise in futility", his spokesman said. "We urge again the Kim Jong Un regime to immediately stop reckless provocative acts and choose the path to cooperate with the international community including giving up its nuclear programme," Park Kwang-on, a spokesman for Moon Jae-in, said in a statement, referring to the North Korean leader. An undated photograph released by the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) on 26 April 2017 shows the combined fire demonstration of the services of the Korean People's Army in celebration of its 85th founding anniversary, at an undisclosed location in North Korea. Credit. The top US military commander in the Pacific warned earlier this week that North Korea could strike American soil. "I don't share your confidence that North Korea is not going to attack either South Korea, or Japan, or the United States ... once they have the capability," Admiral Harry Harris, who heads the US Pacific Command, told Congress. He was defending the deployment of the Terminal High Altitude Area Defence (THAAD) missile defence system by the US in South Korea. The move was "in response to North Korea's advancing nuclear and missile threat", a US military statement said, amid concerns that Pyongyang was planning its sixth nuclear test since 2006.

UN Security Council united in demanding North Korea surrenders nuclear weapons. France's U.N. ambassador says the U.N. Security Council is "mobilized" and unanimous on the need to denuclearise North Korea. Francois Delattre said at the United Nations after North Korea's apparently failed missile launch Saturday that while there were "nuances" on policy to be worked out among council members, there is unanimity on the need for North Korea to give up its nuclear weapons.⁶⁰

While it wasn't scheduled with the expectation of an imminent North Korean missile threat, the military will closely watch whether it shows progress toward the stated goal of being able to reliably shoot down a small number of ICBMs targeting the United States. The Pentagon is thirsting for a success story amid growing fears about North Korea's escalating

capability “I can’t imagine what they’re going to say if it fails,” said Philip Coyle, senior science fellow at the Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation. He headed the Pentagon’s office of operational test and evaluation from 1994 to 2001 and has closely studied the missile defence system. “These tests are scripted for success, and what’s been astonishing to me is that so many of them have failed,” Coyle said. The interceptor system has been in place since 2004, but it has never been used in combat or fully tested. There currently are 32 interceptors in silos at Fort Greely in Alaska and four at Vandenberg, north of Los Angeles. The Pentagon says it will have eight more, for a total of 44, by the end of this year North Korea ready for war if Trump shows ‘reckless’ aggression: North Korean official In its 2018 budget presented to Congress this week, the Pentagon proposed spending \$7.9 billion on missile defence, including U.S 1.5 billion dollar for the ground-based midcourse defence program. Other elements of that effort include the Patriot designed to shoot down short-range ballistic missiles and the Terminal High-Altitude Area Defence, or THAAD which the U.S. has installed in South Korea as defence against medium-range North Korean missiles. President Donald Trump recently ordered the Pentagon to undertake a ballistic missile defence review. Some experts argue the current strategy for shooting down ICBM-range missiles, focused on the silo-based interceptors, is overly expensive and inadequate. They say a more fruitful approach would be to destroy or disable such missiles before they can be launched, possibly by cyber-attack. "Pyongyang’s short-range ballistic missile flies 450 km, lands in the Sea of Japan.

3.2 UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL FAILED RESOLUTIONS AGAINST NORTH KOREA

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) has adopted twenty-two resolutions concerning North Korea between 1950 and 2017 as follows: Five resolutions were adopted during the Korean War in the 1950s. In 1991, a single resolution was adopted regarding North Korea's accession to membership in the United Nations (UN). Through 1990s–2010s, 16 resolutions have been adopted in relation to the North Korean missile and nuclear program, most recently in March 2017 with related non-proliferation with contents and dates as indicated on table 2 below:

TABLE 3: TWENTY-TWO UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTIONS AGAINST NORTH KOREA 1950-2017

No.	YEAR	U.N REFERENCE	CONTENT OF THE RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY U.N SECURITY COUNCIL
1	June 25, 1950	S/RES/82	Held that North Korea's invasion of South Korea in the Korean War constituted a "breach of peace" and demanded immediate cessation of hostilities.
2	June 27, 1950	S/RES/83	Recommended UN member states to provide assistance to South Korea in the Korean War to repel the attack by North Korea and restore peace and security.
3	July 7, 1950	S/RES/84	Established a unified command led by the United States to coordinate the war effort of allies of South Korea in the Korean War.
4	July 31, 1950	S/RES/85	Coordinated relief for victims of the Korean War. Held that North Korea's invasion of South Korea in the war constituted an "unlawful attack".
5	January 31, 1951	S/RES/90	Unanimously removed the Korean War from the agenda of the Security Council.
6	August 8, 1991	S/RES/702	Recommended both North Korea and South Korea for UN membership.
7	May 11, 1993	S/RES/825	Urged North Korea to reconsider its withdrawal from the Nuclear NonProliferation Treaty (NPT) and oblige by its international obligations.
8	July 15, 2006	S/RES/1695	Condemned North Korea's 2006 launch of ballistic missiles and imposed sanctions.
9	October 14, 2006	S/RES/1718	Expressed concern over North Korea's 2006 nuclear test, imposed sanctions and set up the Sanctions Committee. A Panel of Experts issuing annual reports was established to support the Committee.
10	June 12, 2009	S/RES/1874	Expressed concern over North Korea's 2009 nuclear test. Extended sanctions to concern all arms material and related financial transactions, technical training, advice, services or assistance, manufacture and maintenance. Set up the Panel of Experts to assist the Sanctions Committee.
11	September 24, 2009	S/RES/1887	Called for implementing the UNSC Resolution 1540 for nuclear nonproliferation and disarmament.
12	June 7, 2010	S/RES/1928	Extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts until 12 June 2011.
13	June 10, 2011	S/RES/1985	Extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts until 12 June 2012 and asked it to submit its midterm and final reports to the Sanctions Committee for discussion one month before they are submitted to the Security Council.

14	June 12, 2012	S/RES/2050	Extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts until 12 June 2013.
15	January 22, 2013	S/RES/2087	Condemned North Korea's 2012 satellite launch and added to sanctions.
16	March 7, 2013	S/RES/2094	Imposed sanctions after North Korea's 2013 nuclear test.
17	March 5, 2014	S/RES/2141	Extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts until 5 April 2015.
18	March 4, 2015	S/RES/2207	Extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts until 5 April 2016.
19	March 2, 2016	S/RES/2270	Imposed sanctions after North Korea's 2016 nuclear and missile test. Sanctions include inspection of all passing cargo to and from North Korea, prohibition of all weapons trade with the country, additional restrictions on North Korean imports of luxury goods, and expulsion of certain North Korean diplomats suspected of illicit activities.
20	March 24, 2016	S/RES/2276	Extends the mandate of the Panel of Experts assisting the DPRK Sanctions Committee established in UNSC Res 1718.
21	November 30, 2016	S/RES/2321	The UNSC unanimously strengthened its sanctions regime against the DPRK, in response to that country's 9 September nuclear test.
22	March 23, 2017	S/RES/2345	The UNSC unanimously strengthened its sanctions regime against the DPRK, in response to that country's 9 September nuclear test.

SOURCE: Compiled by us with information from various U.N. Resolution Files with serial references indicated on the table above. How North Korea Managed to Defy Years of Sanctions May 12, 2017; Chinese Rappers, Take Aim at American Antimissile System in South Korea, May 12, 2017; York Times. Retrieved 16 April 2017. <http://www.cnn.com/2017/04/28/world/north-korea-missile-launch/index.html>.

CONCLUSION

North Korea has a history of raising tensions to strengthen its leverage when its foes have proposed negotiations or to test new leaders in Seoul or Washington. The 2017 launching of its missile bomb testing took place as its biggest supporter, China, was hosting delegations from around the world at its "One Belt One Road" forum in Beijing. While North Korean delegation, led by its external trade minister, was also attending. President Xi Jinping and his Russian. North Korea has said its intermediate-range Pukguksong-2 could carry a nuclear payload. The missile was also fired from a mobile-launch vehicle and used a solid-fuel technology that missile experts noted it will make it easier to hide it and launch on short notice. Our findings shows that North Korea has been trying to build a reliable intermediate range ballistic missile, which would be capable of reaching American military bases in the Pacific to be a direct attack against a hyper world power in the 21st Century. This is exemplified by the fact that in a New Year's Day speech, Kim said his country had reached a "final stage" in preparing to conduct its first test of an intercontinental ballistic missile. At a military parade in April 2017, North Korea displayed several missiles at a time of heightened tensions with the United States.⁵ Despite that rhetoric, the allies have not given North Korea any "red lines" which it cannot cross or face a military strike,⁶ while, United States Pentagon likens it to hitting a bullet with a bullet.

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⁵ Mark Scheffler and Daphne Rustow, Photo by Wong Maye-e Associated Press. Watch in Times Video, April 16, 2017.

⁶ According to Adam Mount, senior fellow at the Center for American Progress. How much damage can North Korea's weapons do? , said "If they're not clear on what they are attempting to deter, they're not going to have the effect they desire," Mount said. even if a military response was considered, the repercussions could be catastrophic. "If this goes to a military solution, it is going to be tragic on an unbelievable scale," US Defense Secretary James Mattis said earlier this month. Any pre-emptive military strike on North Korea would put South Korean and Japanese civilian populations, as well as US military installations within those countries, at risk for a North Korean counterstrike. Some estimates put 25 million civilians at risk in the Seoul metropolitan area alone.

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