A SELECTIVE, ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY ON
THE NORTH KOREAN MILITARY

March 1987

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   This bibliography, produced in monthly installments from an online database, provides selective annotations of serials and monographs on the army of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (North Korea). Entries are arranged alphabetically by author in three sections: modernization of the North Korean army, strategies and tactics used by the North Korean army during the Korean War (1950-53), and strategies and tactics used by the North Korean army since the war.

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PREFACE

This bibliography provides selective annotations of open-source material and covers the following topics:

- modernization of the North Korean Army,
- North Korean Army strategy and tactics in the Korean War, and
- North Korean Army strategy and tactics since the Korean War.

The bibliography incorporates serials and monographs received in the previous month and is part of a continuing series on the above subjects.

Entries are arranged alphabetically by author or title. Library of Congress call numbers, where appropriate, are included to facilitate the recovery of works cited.
GLOSSARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CPLA</td>
<td>Chinese People's Liberation Army</td>
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<tr>
<td>CFC</td>
<td>Combined Forces Command (US and ROK)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPRK</td>
<td>Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea)</td>
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<tr>
<td>NKA</td>
<td>North Korean Army</td>
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<tr>
<td>NKAF</td>
<td>North Korean Air Force</td>
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<td>NKN</td>
<td>North Korean Navy</td>
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<tr>
<td>KPA</td>
<td>Korean People's Army (Comprises NKA, NKAF, and NKN)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KWP</td>
<td>Korean Workers' Party</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROK</td>
<td>Republic of Korea (South Korea)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROKA</td>
<td>Republic of Korea Army</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROKAF</td>
<td>Republic of Korea Air Force</td>
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<td>ROKN</td>
<td>Republic of Korea Navy</td>
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1. MODERNIZATION OF THE NORTH KOREAN MILITARY

This article discusses the US Defense Department's Annual Report to Congress and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral William J. Crowe's comments on the study which are relevant to Korea's security situation. Discussion of North Korean military modernization and the forward deployment of NKPA units provides no new information on either subject. It is noted that Admiral Crowe believes Korea is one of the most unstable areas in the world because of the North's commitment to maintaining military superiority over the South.


In January, the Annual Report of the US Department of Defense reported that North Korea's military modernization, reorganization, and the forward deployment of troops close to the DMZ have considerably shortened the warning time of a North Korean attack on South Korea. The article supports this finding and suggests that continued US commitment to South Korea and other free countries in Northeast Asia is needed to deter North Korean and Soviet military expansion.


It is reported that the Iranian Air Force has not used Soviet built MiG-19 fighters supplied by North Korea because they are in poor condition. The primary source, a weekly defense magazine published in London, is probably Jane's Defence Weekly.
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North Korea's deployment of submarines in the Sea of Japan, testing of a "long-range guided missile", and continued production of tanks, artillery and naval vessels are discussed in this article. The NKN, with 20 attack submarines, is said to have the third largest submarine fleet in Asia. Details of the missile test are not reported. According to South Korean Government sources, North Korea has produced 585 tanks, 1,182 field artillery pieces, and 119 combat ships since 1981.


Chapter 8 presents South Korea's perspective of the military balance between North and South Korea. The author, Sang-Woo Rhee, asks why, if Pyongyang is seriously interested in peaceful coexistence, has it funnelled so much of the country's resources into expanding and improving the offensive capabilities of its armed forces? Rhee believes those in power in North Korea today have the same level of commitment to reuniting the two Koreas by force as the leaders who supported the 1950 invasion of South Korea. Primary sources for North Korean order of battle information are the 1984-85 edition of Military Balance and a 1983 South Korean Government report.


This article supports the findings on the security situation in Northeast Asia published in the US Department of Defense Annual Report and criticizes the Soviet Union for increasing its military aid to North Korea. The influential South Korean daily suggests that the sincerity of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's peace proposals are questionable because of that country's increased military
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assistance to North Korea. It is feared that Soviet and North Korean military cooperation and the expansion of their military forces will lead to the escalation of an arms race between Communist and free world nations in Northeast Asia.
2. NORTH KOREAN ARMY STRATEGY AND TACTICS IN THE KOREAN WAR
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This book represents a comprehensive account of the contributions made by allied naval forces to the Korean War. The following sections provide information on the NKPA and CPLA: NKN minelaying techniques (chapter 5); the effectiveness of allied airpower in interdicting the CPLA's supply lines (chapter 8); the effectiveness of the naval blockade of North Korea (chapter 9); and North Korea's use of power plants to support underground defense production facilities (chapter 13).


Although the major focus of this book is on the aircraft and operations of US naval air units involved in the Korean War, it also includes information on communist aircraft and tactics. In chapter 7 the author notes that it should not be forgotten that the US Navy and Marine Corp lost 1,248 aircraft during the conflict, including 564 fighter aircraft. Chapter 2 discusses the evolution of the NKAf and includes a description of the Communist air order of battle at the outset of the war. Chapter 3 includes an examination of the CPLA Air Force's use of MiG-15 fighters in the war, and evaluates how US naval air units developed tactics to counter this type of aircraft.
3. NORTH KOREAN ARMY STRATEGY AND TACTICS SINCE THE KOREAN WAR

Part five of this book comprises three chapters which discuss the foreign policies of China, the Soviet Union and Japan toward the Korean Peninsula. In chapter one, Mineo Nakajima of the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies concludes that China's interest in relations with South Korea have clearly defined political limits. He believes that Chinese leaders no longer view the Soviet Union as a serious threat to China and suggests that a "moderate alliance" exists at this time between Moscow, Beijing, and Pyongyang. It is his opinion that China supports the Soviet Union's policy of providing military aid to North Korea. Chapter two, by Hiromi Teratami of Aoyama Gakuin University in Japan, focuses on the Soviet Union. Teratami believes that Soviet leaders favor cross-recognition of Pyongyang and Seoul as the most effective way to preserve peace in Korea. He sees Moscow striving for political detente and military parity with the United States. In chapter 3, Jung Hyun Shin of Kyung Hee University in South Korea examines current Japanese policies on the two Koreas. Shin suggests that continual Japanese interest in promoting unofficial contacts with North Korea is motivated by an interest in weaning Pyongyang away from its hardline strategy and confrontational tactics which are seen as a threat to South Korea, Japan, and other Western countries.


This article focuses on the importance of Beijing's role in promoting stability on the Korean Peninsula. From 1981 to 1985 both China and the Soviet Union lobbied intensely for influence in North Korea. Reportedly, Beijing was prepared to sell fighter aircraft and assist in the construction of a nuclear power plant before Kim Il Sung's May 1984 trip to Moscow ended its interest in both proposals. Chung believes that Pyongyang will only tilt so far toward Moscow, and he suggests that the former benefits more than the Soviet Union from current military
and economic cooperation agreements. He argues that because Beijing still has close relations with Pyongyang, and because Chinese leaders are striving to keep dialogues going with the two Koreas, the Soviet Union, the United States, and Japan, China is in a good position to promote peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula. Chung is the chairman of the Department of International Relations at Seoul National University. University.


South Korean President Chun Doo Hwan said in his New Year address that the Government is carefully watching Soviet-North Korean military developments to gauge the potential threat to the nation, particularly in the period leading up to the 1988 Seoul Olympics. Chun said, "The international environment surrounding the Korean Peninsula is fraught with mounting uncertainties and tension as an expansionist power reinforces its presence in the Asia-Pacific region in parallel with the intensification of North Korean adventurism. We must, therefore keep a very close eye on them. We must further reinforce our own unity, while at the same time wisely coping with North Korea's military moves by promptly and correctly grasping their significance so that we will be able to make the Seoul Olympics the most successful in the history of the modern Olympiad."

"Kumgang Dam Would Cause Greater Damage Than Korean War." Korea Herald (Seoul), 14 January 1987, p. 3.

This is the latest article in the pro-government daily's coverage of the threat posed to South Korea by the North Korean Kumgang Dam project. ROKA Lieutenant Colonel Park Tong-Myung was interviewed at a military post located 10 kilometers northwest of Seoul. Lt. Col. Park says that when North Korea completes the dam, it could unleash 20 billion tons of water that would destroy military and industrial facilities in the Seoul area and kill up to one third of South Korea's 42 million people. The article

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says that South Korea plans to construct its own dam on the Han River to counter the potentially dangerous Kumgang Dam.


This article examines why both North Korea and the Soviet Union are interested in improving their political, military, and economic relationships. The author suggests that Pyongyang's relative political isolation following Beijing's rapprochement with Tokyo and Washington in the 1970s, and the concomitant improvement in the South Korean economy together with Sino-South Korean relations, has left North Korea with no one else to turn to. Moscow's interest in Pyongyang is thought to be motivated primarily by geographic and strategic considerations. Soviet overtures toward Beijing and Tokyo have not been very successful in recent years and Moscow views China as a potential threat to the Soviet Union if its relationship with the West continues to mature. Lee believes that Soviet leaders want to preserve a military balance on the Korean Peninsula because they do not care to become involved in a military confrontation with the United States. He predicts that the Soviet Union will limit its military assistance to Pyongyang to what is necessary to correct certain areas of military weakness. The author is a research analyst for the ROK Ministry of National Defense.


This article discusses why the Sea of Japan is strategically important to the Soviet Union and focuses on the threat perceptions of littoral communist and non-communist countries. The author believes that North Korea is not yet so dependent on the Soviet Union that it
is willing to be a pliant partner in its northern neighbor's strategic planning. Moscow's military and economic aid to Pyongyang is viewed as part of a long range plan to influence the smaller country's future leaders, including heir apparent Kim Chong Il, to be pro-Soviet. Japan is viewed as taking the Soviet threat seriously while South Korea does not. The author calls for the United States to nurture mutually beneficial economic and defense partnerships with Japan, China, and South Korea to counter the Soviet threat to the region. Olsen is an associate professor of national security affairs at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California.


At the same time Chief of Staff of the United States Army General John Wickham was visiting Beijing in November, Mongolian Head of State Jambyn Batmonh was in Pyongyang. This editorial suggests that one purpose of Batmonh's visit was to promote military cooperation with North Korea. It goes on to say that the Soviet Union, Mongolia, and North Korea are in the process of establishing a tripartite military alliance and speculates that this development will increase tension on the Korean Peninsula.


The false reports that North Korean President Kim Il Sung was assassinated on or about 16 November are analyzed in order to determine what the incident reveals about the current leadership of North Korea. It is speculated that Seoul was the victim of a Pyongyang initiated psychological warfare campaign that aimed to embarrass South Korean leaders. This aside, Asiaweek suggests that it is possible that North Korean Defense Minister O Jin U and other military leaders are resentful of President
Kim's plan to pass power to his son and have successfully acquired more power than is apparent to the outside world. As for the future, reporters for the Hong Kong weekly interviewed several Chinese with experience in Korean affairs. A spokesman for China's Foreign Ministry is reported to have reacted angrily to the suggestion that China has provided sanctuary to North Koreans who oppose Kim Il Song and his heir apparent Kim Chong Il. A China businessman said that some North Koreans are firm in their support of Kim Il Sung's policy of keeping the West out of Korea while others favor a moderate policy designed to increase the country's trade with non-communist countries. Finally, a Chinese scholar who is an expert on North Korea said that many North Koreans do not regard Kim Chong Il as an effective policymaker and implied that the North Korean President's son had a number of political enemies. The fact that all of these theories are speculative is another indication of how little is known about the current state of North Korea's political leadership.