

*A SELECTIVE, ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY ON
THE NORTH KOREAN MILITARY*

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August 1987

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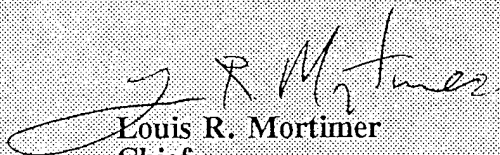
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13. ABSTRACT (Maximum 200 words) This bibliography, produced in monthly installments from an online database, provides selective annotations of serials and monographs on the army of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea). Entries are 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

CPLA	Chinese People's Liberation Army
CFC	Combined Forces Command (US and ROK)
DPRK	Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea)
NKA	North Korean Army
NKAF	North Korean Air Force
NKN	North Korean Navy
KPA	Korean People's Army (Comprises NKA, NKAF, and NKN)
KWP	Korean Workers' Party
ROK	Republic of Korea (South Korea)
ROKA	Republic of Korea Army
ROKAF	Republic of Korea Air Force
ROKN	Republic of Korea Navy

1. MODERNIZATION OF THE NORTH KOREAN MILITARY

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Gleysteen, William H., Jr. and Romberg, Alan D. "Korea: Asian Paradox." Foreign Affairs (New York), Vol. 65, No. 5, Summer 1987, pp. 1037-54. D410.F6

The authors argue that recent increases of Soviet military aid to North Korea have not significantly altered the military balance on the Korean Peninsula. Additionally, Seoul is reported to be approaching military parity with Pyongyang and the latter is believed to be interested in negotiating force reductions. It is suggested that the United States should encourage South Korea to engage in substantive conversations with the North in an effort to realize step-by-step agreements that would reduce tension. William Gleysteen was the US ambassador to South Korea from 1978 to 1981.

"North Korean Army Ranks Eighth in World With Force of 780,000." Chungang Ilbo (Seoul), 8 July 1987. Press Translations (US Embassy, Seoul), 9 July 1987, p. 3. DS901.P7

North Korea is reported to have the 8th largest army in the world and to rank 19th in military spending. Pyongyang's annual military expenditures are estimated at \$5.2 billion. The primary source for this information is the 1987 edition of World Military Expenditures and Arms Transfers published by the US Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

"Pyongyang Wages Propaganda for Armed Revolt in South." Korea Herald (Seoul), 28 June 1987, p. 8.

A North Korean security guard, who defected to South Korea in June 1987, is reported to know about sensitive NKA training for commando raids on targets in Seoul. The NKA is said to have a training facility which is modeled after Myongdong Street in downtown Seoul. The commandos have prior knowledge of what their targets will be and, using this and other training facilities, have received extensive training in how to carry out their missions. According to the defector, the North Korean Government is telling the people that South Korea is not ready to host the 1988 Summer Olympics and that the possibility of a

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civil war breaking out in the South is increasing because of political opposition to the ROK Government and the US presence in the country.

2. NORTH KOREAN ARMY STRATEGY AND TACTICS IN THE KOREAN WAR

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Kaufman, Burton Ira. The Korean War: Challenges in Crisis, Credibility, and Command. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1986. 379 pp. DS919.K38

This book criticizes the contributions of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) to policymaking before and during the Korean War. Initially, the JCS supported the 1948 pullout of US troops from South Korea. Kaufman argues that the pullout should have been opposed because the JCS knew about the Soviet military assistance being provided to North Korea at that time and the potential consequences of the US withdrawal. In October and November 1950, the JCS may have delegated too much authority to field commanders. As a result, UN forces were spread too thin and were unable to stop the CPLA offensive which forced the allied withdrawal from North Korea. Finally, the author suggests that the JCS should not have supported Truman Administration policies limiting the scope of military operations in the last two years of the war. He believes that the war would have ended before July 1953 if the United States had put more pressure on the CPLA and NKA.

Sheldon, Walter J. Hell or High Water. New York: MacMillan Co., 1968. 340 pp. DS918.2.I5 S5

This book focuses on allied preparations for the retaking of Seoul in September 1950 and includes some useful information on KPA strategy and tactics during the Korean War. Chapter 1 describes a North Korean attempt to land a 1,000-man assault force at Pusan on 26 June 1950. The North Koreans tried to infiltrate the unit using only one transport ship. This vessel was detected as it approached the South Korean coast and was subsequently sunk by a ROKN patrol boat. If this plan had been successful, the North Koreans might have been able to prevent the United States from providing military assistance to the Republic of Korea through this vital port. Chapter 9 describes the poor state of North Korean defenses along the approaches to Inchon, the place chosen by General Douglas MacArthur to begin his campaign to retake Seoul in September 1950. Chapter 15 discusses in detail the defensive operations taken by three NKA units in the futile North Korean effort to keep Seoul under communist control.

3. NORTH KOREAN ARMY STRATEGY AND TACTICS SINCE THE KOREAN WAR

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CAUSA. Strategic Implications of the Soviet-North Korean Alliance. New York: CAUSA, 1987. 162 pp. Not in LC.

In January 1987, military experts from Japan, South Korea, and the United States participated in a 3-day Seoul seminar on the implications of Soviet-North Korean military cooperation. Selected papers presented at the seminar have been reprinted in this book. The four chapters written by prominent Japanese defense analysts examine these issues: the role of Japan as an ally of both the United States and South Korea; the significance of continuing efforts by the North Koreans and Soviets to modernize and expand their armed forces; an analysis of the extent of cooperation between the Soviet and North Korean navies; and the potential military threat to Japan in the event of a North Korean invasion of South Korea. Edward Olsen, a professor of international relations at the United States Naval Postgraduate School, discusses the importance of US-ROK economic interdependence to the security relationship. Each of the four South Koreans who contributed to the book focuses on some aspect of the North Korean threat to South Korea. Ki-Tak Lee, an advisor to the ROK Joint Chiefs of Staff and a professor at Yonsei University, suggests that North Korea may be in the initial stages of establishing a capability to produce nuclear weapons with Soviet assistance.

Gelman, Harry. "The Soviet Union, East Asia and the West: the Kremlin's Calculus of Opportunities and Risks." Adelphi Papers (London), No. 217, Spring 1987, pp. 3-26. Not in LC.

In this article, the author comments on various changes in the Soviet Union's foreign policies worldwide since Mikhail Gorbachev became the General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. In the section on North Korea, Gelman argues that while Gorbachev has pursued closer relations, both military and political, with North Korea, he probably will be cautious and place clearly defined limits on the military assistance given to Kim Il-song's regime. The reason for such caution is to discourage Pyongyang from making a unilateral decision to attack South Korea and then use the 1961 Soviet-Korean security pact to involve the Soviet Union. It is argued

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that concurrent crises in North and South Korea over political succession have, at the least, increased the possibility that some North Korean leaders involved in Pyongyang's power struggle might consider 1988 an opportune time to initiate military actions against South Korea. Gelman believes that Soviet leverage over North Korea is not sufficient to prevent Kim Il-song, or his successor, from starting a war.

Hahn, Bradley. "Dilemma for the Mavericks of Pyongyang." Pacific Defence Reporter (Kunyang, Australia), Vol. 14, No. 1, July 1987, pp. 18-22. Not in LC.

The NKN is said to be well organized and equipped for its mission of infiltrating NKA personnel into South Korea. Reportedly, three of the NKA's light infantry brigades are trained in amphibious landing operations, and the NKN is thought to have approximately 100 high-speed landing craft that are capable of transporting commando teams to South Korea. The author acknowledges recent North Korean peace initiatives, for example the January 1987 offer to reduce the size of military forces along the DMZ. However, he believes that North Korean leaders have not yet abandoned their hope of reunifying the two Koreas by force. The article also discusses Pyongyang's military assistance to other countries and to terrorist organizations.

Hiatt, Fred. "North Korea Proposes that Both Sides Reduce Military Forces to Under 100,000." Washington Post, 24 July 1987, p. A17.

North Korea has called on South Korea to participate in bilateral military talks for the purpose of negotiating a troop reduction agreement. It is reported that North Korea has said it will reduce the size of the NKA by 100,000 as a sign of good faith. Currently, Pyongyang has about 800,000 personnel under arms compared to Seoul's 600,000. South Korean military analysts are reported to doubt that the North Koreans will actually begin unilateral troop reductions. They say that the recent

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trend toward democracy in the South has provided a setback for North Korean propaganda targeting South Koreans and suggest this may be an explanation for the timing of the proposal.

Korea (Republic of). A Water Bomb Over Seoul. Seoul: Korean Overseas Information Service, 1986. 87 pp. Illustrations. Not in LC.

The book discusses why the Kumgangsan Dam in North Korea, when completed, will pose a military threat to South Korea. It is argued that the location of the dam 10 kilometers north of the DMZ at the point where the Kumgangchon and Pukhan Rivers converge, and the 20 billion metric tons of water to be stored in the reservoir behind the dam, will enable the North Koreans to flood Seoul and other populated areas in South Korea. Pyongyang's commitment of approximately 50,000 military personnel to the project is said to be another indication of its military significance. The book includes statements by various South Korean government officials and reprints from South Korean and other Asian publications that highlight South Korea's security concerns.

Nishihara, Masashi. "The Security of Northeast Asia: Part 1." Adelphi Papers (London), No. 218, Spring 1987, pp. 3-13. Not in LC.

North Korea's bilateral defense alliance with the Soviet Union is viewed as a potential threat to peace in the region. The article notes that Pyongyang is unhappy with South Korea's growing influence and prestige in the international community and suggests Kim Il-song may yet decide to forcefully unite the two Koreas. Because of the formal and implicit relationships existing among the United States, Japan, China and South Korea, Nishihara believes that the Soviet Union would be more supportive of a North Korean attack on the South than it was in 1950. The author is a professor of international relations at Japan's National Defense Academy.

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Williams, Nick B., Jr. "North Korea Urges Mutual Troop Cuts."
Los Angeles Times, 24 July 1987, p. 5.

On 23 July, the Korean Central News Agency broadcast a proposal to reduce the size of the NKA to 100,000 provided South Korea agrees to similar cutbacks and the United States begins a phased withdrawal of its troops from South Korea. According to the North Korean plan, steps to verify troop reductions would be worked out at a multinational conference to be held next year in Geneva, Switzerland. The article suggests that the North Koreans view their proposal as an ancillary part of the US-Soviet arms negotiations currently underway in Geneva.