Military and Strategic Studies

Case Study: North Korean Strategy

THE KOREAN WAR U.S.S.R. 1950 - 1953 SEA OF JAPAN YELLOW SEA SOUTH KOREA 1950-1953 City or Town Communist - Occupied Territory - National Boundaries ---- U. N. Forces Front Line

Moving Violations

Consistent pattern of provocations

Testing American and South Korean responses



CIA. (August 2018). Administrative Divisions in South Korea. [Online Image]. Retrieved October 2020 from

https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/resources/cia-maps-publications/map-downloads/SouthKorea Administrative.pdf

Moving Violations

The Blue House raid

The USS Pueblo

The EC-121 shootdown

The Panmunjom incident



CIA. (August 2018). Administrative Divisions in South Korea. [Online Image]. Retrieved October 2020 from

 $https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/resources/cia-maps-publications/map-downloads/SouthKorea_Administrative.pdf$

Moving Violations

The Cheonan

The Yeonpyeong Island incident

Missile launches

The Secret Sauce



A.F. Hunt. (November 2008). M-1978 Koksan in Iraq. [Online Image]. Retrieved October 2020 from https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:SPG_M-1978_KOKSAN.JPG

Why has North Korea been able to provoke South Korea and the U.S. in this fashion?

Why has North Korea continued to pursue nuclear weapons?

Irrational or Strategic?



Are the characterizations of Kim Jong Un as irrational and impulsive warranted?

What do the last two answers suggest about the rationality of North Korea's nuclear ambitions?

How should this shape US/RoK strategy toward North Korea?