

UNSC

About United Nations Security Council

United Nations Security Council is one of the 6 primary organs of United Nations. The main responsibilities of UNSC include maintaining peace and security and they meet whenever peace is threatened. According to the Charter, the United Nations has four purposes:

- to maintain international peace and security;
- to develop friendly relations among nations;
- to cooperate in solving international problems and in promoting respect for human rights;
- And to be a center for harmonizing the actions of nations.

All the member states are obliged to carry out the decisions made by the Security Council unlike other councils where United Nations makes recommendations to the member states. The Security Council held its first session on 17 January 1946 at Church House, Westminster, London. Thereafter the Security Council has taken permanent residence at the UN headquarters in New York City. The prime focus of Security Council is to take actions against those responsible for practices or policies condemned by the international community while keep the collateral damage minimum.

Agenda 1: Global terrorism and its international impact with special attention to the Middle East.

Introduction:

Global Terrorism is on a rise and this fact is undeniably. Most countries in the world suffer from one or the other kind of terrorist activity. The scale of attacks may vary but in the end, innocent civilians suffer. Incidents related to terrorism have increased manifold. There was a 61% increase in the number of deaths due to terrorist activities from 2012 to 2013. Although majority of these activities occur in few countries, the repercussions are experienced all over the world. Terrorism inhibits growth of individuals, prosperity of countries but more than that it deprives people of the basic human rights that they are entitled to at birth. The persistent fear that entire population of several countries live in is not justified whatever be

the motive or agenda of these terrorist groups and organizations. United Nations Security Council has had more meetings in 2014 than ever before so as to put an end to or at least prevent any major more loss of life and property at the hands of violent perpetrators. And yet they continue to instill fear and panic wherever they can. The ubiquity of this issue is one of the primary reasons why it is difficult to erase it from the face of the world.



At the same time, it is necessary to direct our attention to the Middle East, where the presence of extremist organizations causes ripples and shockwaves throughout the planet as of now.

2.2) Causes:

In order to terminate the terrorist activities it is important to understand what causes them in the first place. Most terrorist acts are motivated by –

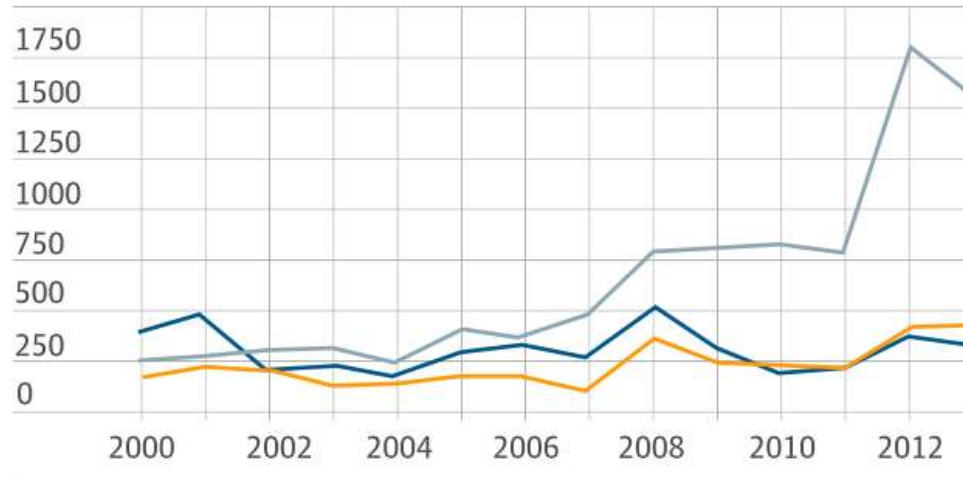
- a) Social or Political injustice: People walk the path of terrorism when they feel that something that is socially, politically or even historical unjust, biased or just wrong and they perceive that they are trying to make things right. Such emotions may arise when they are not given something that they consider to be their right.
- b) Violence brings about change: After failing to make change happen through peaceful means people are convinced that violence will have the necessary impact to make sure the change or alteration in the world that they want to see will happen.
- c) Religious extremism, Nationalism and Ideology: Today's terrorists are likely to be motivated by ethnic or religious extremism. Passion and faith in one's religion can make one a fanatic who would interpret the religion in ways that may not be intended. The patriotism for one's nation and be a boost to one's terrorism campaign. Strong religious beliefs and nationalist-separatist goals represent a particularly effective motivational combination. The role of ideology is not undermined by the influence of religion.
- d) State sponsorship: State sponsorship of terrorism continues to be a significant concern. Support by state sponsors through weapons, funding, logistics and safe haven is important to the operation of many terrorist organizations.

However we can never conclusively say what causes terrorism. The question that needs to be addressed is 'What environment is conducive to terrorism?' We must understand that not all religious fanatics end up becoming terrorists but some choose to be terrorists and others don't. This can be attributed to the conditions in which they are brought up and the kind of exposure they received.

Ideology

Trends in terrorist group ideology, hundreds of incidents

○ Religious ○ Nationalist/separatist ○ Political



2.3) Aspects of Terrorism:

The Rise of Non-State Actors:

Non-state entities began to use guerilla tactics in the second half of the twentieth century. This was due to factors such as rise of ethnic nationalism, a general anti-colonial attitude towards the large colonial empires and newer ideologies, particularly communism. Irish Republican Army was formed so that an independent republic can be created. The Kurdish Worker's Party (PKK) also used terrorist tactics with the end goal of forming a Kurdish state.

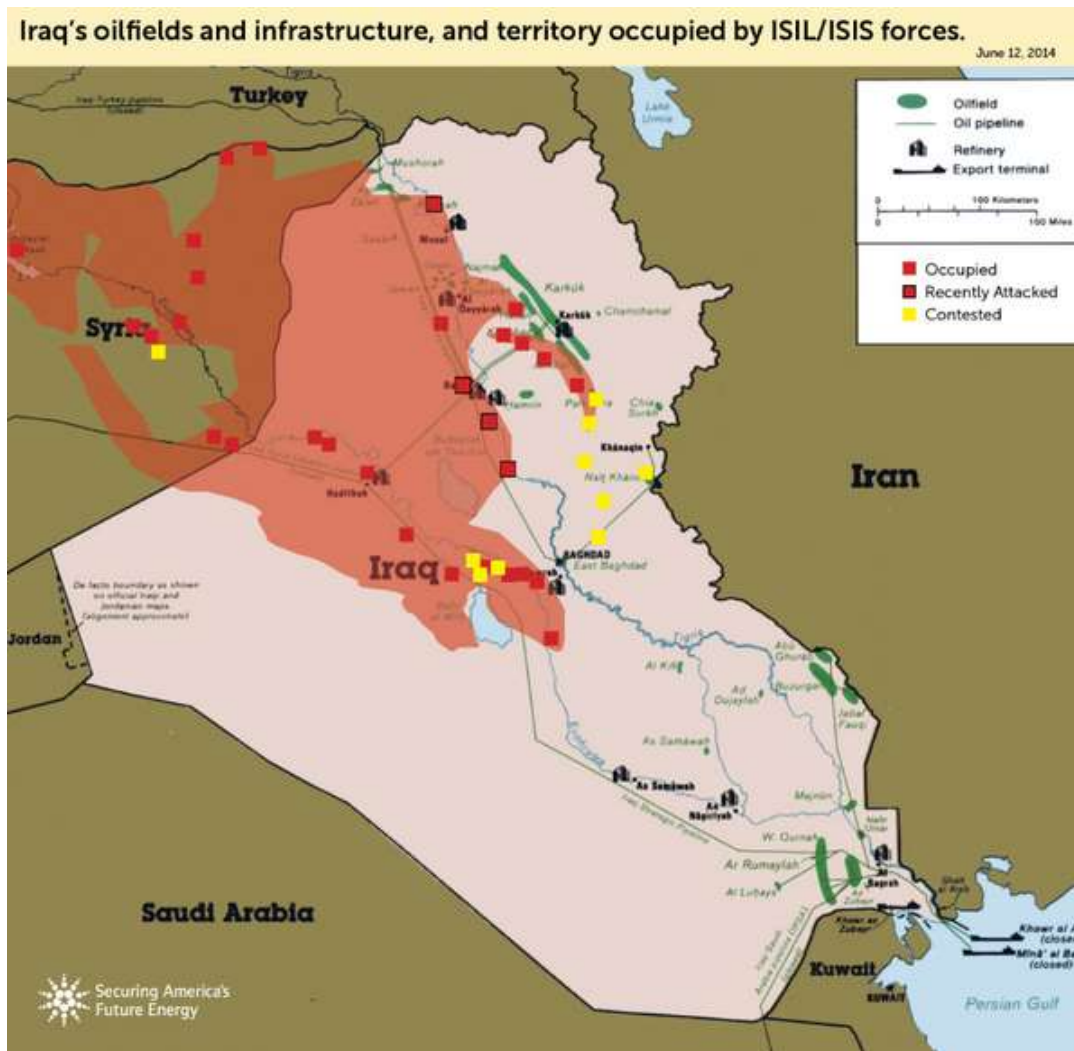
International Terrorism:

International terrorism mainly came to light in the 1960s when hijacking became a favored tactic. In 1968, the Popular Front hijacked an EI AI Flight. The events at Munich Olympics in 1972 were politically motivated. A Palestinian group kidnapped and killed Israeli athletes. The motive was to negotiate the release of Palestinian prisoners. They certainly grabbed international attention in the process bringing their national cause to the forefront. Terrorism in United States also grew during this period. Initially non-violent group the Weathermen turned violent and began rioting and setting of bombs in order to protest the Vietnam War.

Twenty First Century:

Today the most serious threat is terrorism motivated by religion. Groups such as Al Qaeda, Hezbollah, IS and many more justify their violent actions on Islamic grounds. They tend to bend and manipulate the religious concepts for their own purposes. They are not orthodox believers who have turned violent but rather they are violent extremists by nature.

2.3) Crisis in the Middle-East:



The Islamic State:

The Islamic State (also known as the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, and *ad-Dawlah al-Islamiyya fil'Araq wa-Sham*) is a movement that has conquered territory in Iraq and Eastern Syria. Started off as an offshoot of the Al Qaeda in this area, a few years after it's inception it split upon ideological differences between itself and Osama Bin Laden's organization. The IS is more dangerous than it's 'parent' organization since after capturing land it instills a system of Governance, to keep hold of what it captures. The entire point after it's split from Al Qaeda, is summarized in the name itself, an embryonic Caliphate, Governed by Islamic Law, to which all entities in its territory owe allegiance.

The period of 2010-11 saw the toning down of US troops in the territories of the IS, an incident that coincided with the brewing Syrian civil disturbance. This was a

very fertile opportunity for the IS to grow and establish itself into what it is today, after witnessing a trough due to the presence of US forces till that point in time.

Situation as of now:

The disturbance in Syria has seen the IS emerge as one of the key parties to the conflict. The organization seems closest to overthrow President Bashar al-Assad's Government, and has taken over about one-third of Syria and neighbouring parts of Iraq.

Expansion of the IS:

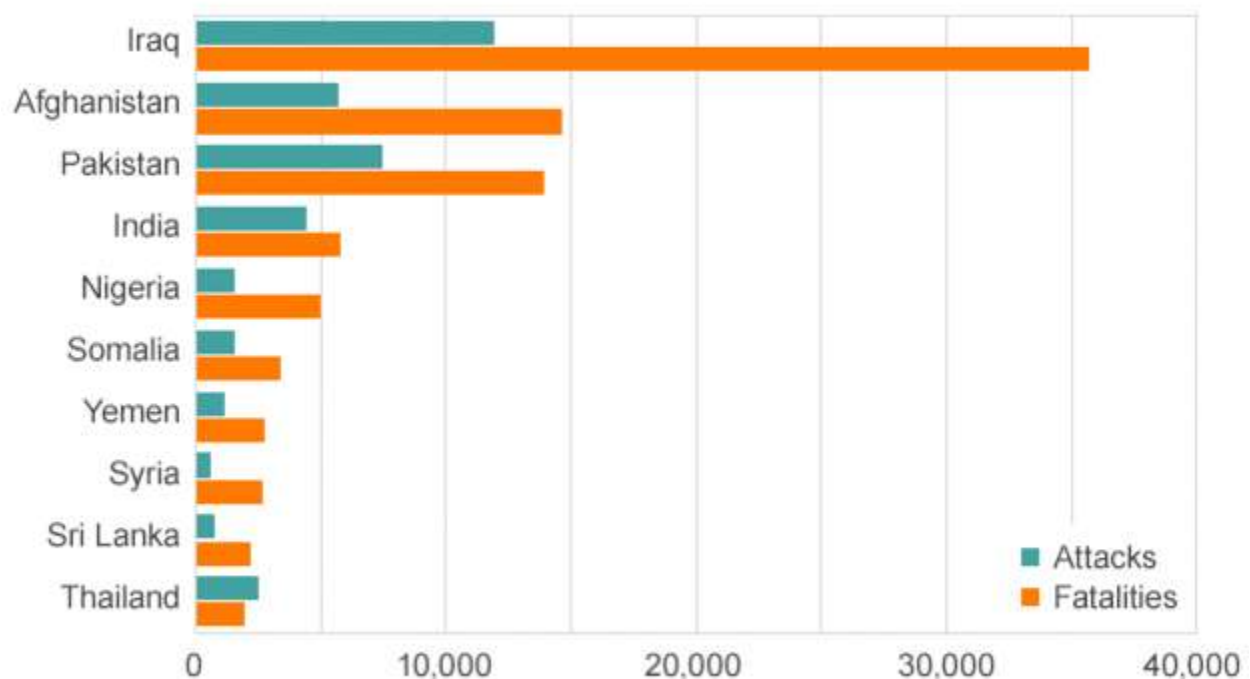
Ever since the implementation of airstrikes by an international coalition, IS has still expanded. A lot of this can go down to the fact that even though the international setup for airstrikes is a good step, it must be understood that a ground level military strategy is absent, and as a result IS can go about its business without much to worry about. The airstrikes aren't a definitive solution enough. The recent news that the USA is going to deploy 400 or so troops to train members of the Free Syrian Army that is engaged in a continuous battle it seems to lose, comes as a ray of hope, as such a step might be conclusive enough to bring about change. However, apprehensions remain, that such a scenario is too little too late.

Implications:

The unrest in middle east is a very chronic issue and it has had profound implications on the world. Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant rules Sunni regions in Iraq and Syria. It has acquired swathes of territories in Iraq and Syria in the wake of this armed conflict. It is estimated that roughly 10 million people live in the territories controlled by IS as of March, 2015. It also has nominal control over certain small areas in Afghanistan, Nigeria and Libya. IS also has a number of affiliations in Africa and South Asia. Most countries recognize IS as a terrorist organization and are fighting against it, some directly and others indirectly. IS is held accountable for War Crimes and a variety human right violations. There have been around 25 incidents where IS has beheaded journalists, aid workers and even soldiers. Ethnic minorities in northern Iraq are being "systematically and deliberately" targeted by IS as it carries out "ethnic cleansing on a historic scale", according to evidence uncovered by Amnesty International. This has received attention from the world and their condemnation. "2014 was a catastrophic year for millions caught up in violence," said Amnesty's secretary-general Shalil Shetty. "The global response to conflict and abuses by states and armed groups has been shameful and ineffective. As people suffered an escalation in barbarous attacks and repression, the international community has been found wanting."

The town of Tal Abyad is located on the Syrian-Turkish border. It came under IS's grip in June 2014, when the group seized the town from armed rebel groups fighting against Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's government. In July, 2015, combined forces from the Kurdish People's Protection Units (YPG) and other rebel groups, assisted by air strikes from the US-led international coalition against IS, expelled its fighters from the town. Under IS, the Tal Abyad region's estimated 200,000 residents were held accountable for any deviations from the group's understanding of "Islamic" norms. In one document dated May 12, 2015, by IS's religious and morality police, known as al-Hisba, a man was detained for "not attending Friday prayers in the mosque".

Countries with most fatalities from terror attacks, 2004-13



Source: GTD

2.4) Recent Incidents (2015):

Afghanistan - A series of attacks were made on Kabul with at least two of them claimed by the Taliban, and which resulted in hundreds of casualties and at least 70 deaths, including children.

Saudi Arabia - The terrorist attack claimed by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant at a mosque at the headquarters of the Special Emergency Security Forces in the Asir region of Saudi Arabia on 6 August 2015 resulted in the death of at least 15 people.

The terrorist attack claimed by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant at a mosque in Qatif, Saudi Arabia, on 22 May 2015 resulted in the death of at least 21 people.

Village of Duma, Palestinian territories - A vicious terrorist attack in the village of Duma near Nablus killed a Palestinian child and injured his family members.

Turkey - The terrorist attack of 20 July in Suruc, Turkey, killed at least 31 and injuring over 100 people.

.The coordinated attacks against a United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) camp in Kidal, Mali, on 8 March 2015 resulted in the death of two children and of one Chadian peacekeeper of MINUSMA, and many injured.

France, Kuwait and Tunisia - The terrorist attacks of 26 June 2015 were against a chemical products factory in Saint-Quentin-Fallavier, France, triggering an explosion and killing at least one through a gruesome beheading while injuring others; a bomb attack in a Shiite mosque in Kuwait City, Kuwait, killing at least 24 and injuring many more; and gunmen attacking a tourist hotel near Sousse, Tunisia, killing at least 37 and injuring many others.

There was another terrorist attack at the National Bardo Museum in Tunis, Tunisia, on 18 March 2015, resulting in the death of at least 20 people.

Yemen -The horrific 17 June terrorist attacks in Sana'a, Yemen, including at three mosques, resulted in a number of deaths and casualties.

Also there was an attack on 27 March on the Maka al-Mukarama hotel in Mogadishu, perpetrated by Al-Shabaab, which caused the death and injury of many innocent Somalis, including Somalia's Ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva, Ambassador Yusuf Bari-Bari.

Security Council's Response to events in 2015:

The members of the Security Council strongly condemned the ongoing barbaric terrorist acts by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant in Syria, including its violent takeover of Palmyra.

The members of the Security Council expressed deep concern for the thousands of Palmyra residents inside the city, as well as for those displaced as a result of IS's advance. The members of the Security Council call for the safe passage of civilians fleeing the violence, and reaffirm that the primary responsibility to protect its populations lies with the Syrian authorities. The members of the Security Council stated their grave concern for the protection of the World Heritage site of Palmyra and the systematic campaign of destruction of cultural heritage in Iraq and Syria.

They expressed concern for the women and children in Palmyra, noting IS's pattern of abducting, exploiting, and abusing women and children elsewhere, including rape, sexual abuse, forced marriage, and forced child recruitment committed by IS.

The members of the Security Council strongly condemned the ongoing barbaric terrorist acts in Iraq by IS, including: the abduction of 100 Sunni tribesmen from outside Tikrit on 25 February; the immolation of 45 Iraqis in Baghdad on 17 February; ongoing daily attacks targeting civilians in Baghdad; and the deliberate destruction of irreplaceable religious and cultural artefacts housed in the Mosul Museum and burning of thousands of books and rare manuscripts from the Mosul Library.

The members of the Security Council reiterated their condemnation of the destruction of cultural heritage in Iraq and Syria, particularly by IS, including targeted destruction of religious sites and objects, and noted with concern that IS and other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with Al-Qaida are generating income from engaging directly or indirectly in the looting and smuggling of cultural heritage items from archaeological sites, museums, libraries, archives, and other sites in Iraq and Syria, which is being used to support their recruitment efforts and strengthen their operational capability to organize and carry out terrorist attacks.

The members of the Security Council strongly condemned the abduction of more than 100 Assyrians by IS on 23 February 2015 in the north-east of Syria as well as destruction and desecration of Christian and other religious sites. Such crimes once again demonstrate the brutality of IS which is responsible for thousands of crimes and abuses against people from all faiths, ethnicities and nationalities and without regard to any basic value of humanity.

2.6) Measures by UN:

The threats to security and peace and the humanitarian crisis due to terrorist activities are discussed regularly in United Nations. The need to bring the various counter-terrorism activities of the United Nations system into a common framework and to elaborate a comprehensive, global counter-terrorism strategy was first proposed by the High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change. In its December 2004 report, the Panel drew attention to the need to develop a comprehensive strategy to fight terrorism that addresses factors that facilitate terrorism, and strengthens the capacity of States and the rule of law, while also promoting fundamental human rights. The Panel called on the United Nations to take a leading role in promoting such a comprehensive strategy.

Using the Secretary-General's recommendations as a basis for discussions, Member States on 11 May 2006 began consultations on formulating a comprehensive counter-terrorism strategy in line with the commitment they made at the 2005 September Summit. Those consultations resulted in a unique consensus agreement to adopt the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy on 8 September 2006.

Apart from the counter terrorism strategy, countless resolutions have been passed by the Security Council to stop terrorism.

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- 3) <http://www.un.org/en/terrorism/strategy-counter-terrorism.shtml>
- 4) www.un.org/en/sc/documents/
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3) Agenda 2: Resolution on the conflict in Korean Peninsula.

3.1) Introduction:



The Korean Peninsula is a peninsula in Eastern part of the Asian continent. It extends towards south for about 1,100 kilometers into the Pacific Ocean from the continental Asia. The Korean peninsula is surrounded by East China Sea which is to its south, the East Sea (more popular as Sea of Japan) is to its east and Yellow sea is to the west on the peninsula. Korea Strait connects the East China Sea and Sea of Japan. The northern boundary of the Korean peninsula is the same as the political border between North Korea and its neighbors which are People's Republic of China and The Russian Federation. North Korea has a 1,416 km long border with China whereas a relatively shorter border of merely 19km with Russia. The borders are naturally formed by the rivers Yalu and Tuman to the north of the peninsula. The Korean Peninsula has an approximate area of 220,000km. The peninsula is referred to as Chosun Bando in North Korea and Han Bando in South Korea because of the different names for Korea. Northern half of the peninsula is occupied by North Korea while the southern half is occupied by South Korea. Before World War II, Korea comprised of a single political entity, the territory of which coincides with the Korean Peninsula. However, since the Korean War in 1950 the picture has radically changed. To fully comprehend the current situation it is essential that we understand the history of Korean peninsula.

3.2) History:

Before World War II:

For most periods, Korea has managed to retain its independence. But since the 16th century it was the main focus of Japanese imperialism. Koreans, aided by the Chinese, were able to remain mostly unaffected by the danger of Japan. But during the Sino-Japanese War (1894-1895) the Japanese had begun to dominate the Korean peninsula. Japanese were equipped with sophisticated modern weaponry and a westernized military and by the virtue of which they were able to defeat the Chinese compelling the Chinese to give up Formosa, a strategic location which became center of struggle between People's Republic of China and Nationalist China.

The occupation of Korea by imperialistic Japan was not in the best interests of Russia as it had leased the territory of Manchuria from China and Manchuria is to the north of the Korean peninsula. A very important rail route passed through Manchuria which gave Russia efficient access to warm-water ports of Dairen and Port Arthur. After the Boxer Rebellion of 1900, the Czar of Russia sent troops in order to protect Manchuria. Eventually the tensions in Manchuria and Korea between Russia and Japan led to the Russo-Japanese War (1904-1905). The Japanese fought surprisingly well in the war and defeated the Russians. In 1905, Korea became a protectorate of Japan and by 1910 Japan had fully annexed Korea.

Post World War II:

Korea remained in the clutches of Japan until the end of World War II. On August 10, 1945, the United States dropped two atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. After this incident Japan surrendered to the Allied forces in World War II. Followed by the surrender Soviet troops started to pour into Korea from the north and the United States moved in from the south. Japanese troops surrendered to the Soviet forces in the north and the US forces in the south. The 38th Parallel was selected as the line that would separate the Soviet controlled north and the American controlled south. In north pro-Soviet and communist Korean People's Republic (KPR) came to be as interim government. Governance of the south was done by American Military Government. As both the superpowers began to move out of Korea, United Nations proposed country wide election in 1948. In the south, Syngman Rhee's party emerged victorious and called itself Republic of Korea and in the communist elections in the north Kim II-Sung of KPR won. The north was pro Soviet because over the year of Japanese occupation they were influenced by the communist ideologies and Marxist philosophies and the south was influenced by the Americans as the locals saw them as their liberators. Thus the leaders

proclaimed the 'Republic of Korea' and the 'People's republic of Korea'. The issue was that both claimed authority over the entire Korean peninsula. This led to a civil war soon after the elections.

Korean War:



The Soviets recognized North Korea's authority over the peninsula and Soviets in cooperation with People's Republic of China, that is, Communist China armed North Korea by providing it with weapons and tanks. It is presumed that this was done to maintain a strategic advantage over the south and indirectly over United States as far as Russia was concerned. However neither China nor Russia could support North Korea in the diplomatic sphere because Russia was abstaining from the United Nations proceedings as part of the protest it was staging against Nationalist China being given the seat at United Nations and not the Communist China. Regardless, there ensued a civil war in Korea. The Korean War can be

regarded as civil war because not very long ago Korea was one political entity and both North Korea and South Korea considered the Korean peninsula to be under one authority and wanted unification of Korea. However the extent of military force employed by North Korea soon made it clear that it was a full scale military attack on South Korea. Americans had not heavily armed the South Koreans because, as NCS-68 document points out, Eastern part of Asia was of lesser concern to United States and to some extent they realized the obsession of Rhee to unify Korea could make him take military action if provided with enough resources.

It was imperative from the perspective of United States to counter this aggression because it was highly unlikely for North Korea to have acted without the support of its Allies, namely, PRC and USSR. And since cold war had already begun, letting such action slide by could be interpreted as a weakness of United States. The UN also sanctioned the war against North Korea because it recognized the government in South Korea as the sole legitimate representative of Korea. However by the time all of this transpired, The North Korean forces had already cornered South Korean forces to the area around Pusan Port in the south of the peninsula. Due to the military brilliance of the General MacArthur the tide turned against the North Korean forces and the UN and the South Korean forces regained control of the south and further started taking control of territories to the north including Pyongyang.

The Chinese, seeing this as a threat, indirectly joined the war through an army of volunteers. They managed to push back the unsuspecting UN forces back to the line initially dividing the two halves, the 38th parallel. The US and UN pushed for negotiations so that the involved parties can come to an agreement. The Armistice Treaty was signed by United Nations Command and North Korea establishing a “complete cessation of all hostilities in Korea by all armed force”. The signed armistice also established a Demilitarized Zone which acts as the border between North Korea and South Korea. The line was drawn up unilaterally by the U.S.-led United Nations command after the 1950-53 Korean War. That conflict ended in an armed truce that has continued until now, leaving the two Koreas in a technical state of war.

3.3) Joint Declaration of South and North Korea on the Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula:

In 1992, both South Korea and North Korea agreed upon a joint declaration whereby the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and the Republic of

Korea (ROK) agree not to test, manufacture, deploy, use, possess, produce, store or receive nuclear weapons; to use nuclear energy only for purposes which are peaceful; and not to possess facilities for nuclear reprocessing and uranium enrichment. In accordance with the text of the Joint Declaration both parties will be inspecting the locations chosen by other side or mutually agreed upon by both the sides. South Korea was convinced that North Korea was attempting to enhance its nuclear capabilities but North Korea denied this and claimed they have no intentions of manufacturing nuclear bombs. And hence such a declaration became necessary to make sure that the peninsula is free from any forms of nuclear warfare.

Time and again North Korea stressed that the Team Spirit military exercises which South Korea and United States participate in be cancelled and that US troops be removed from South Korea. But South Korea had their set of demands which North Korea wasn't willing to accept. Due to the differences there wasn't much progress observed in the dialogue between both nations and also this made North Korea withdraw from the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) which was announced 12th March, 1993.

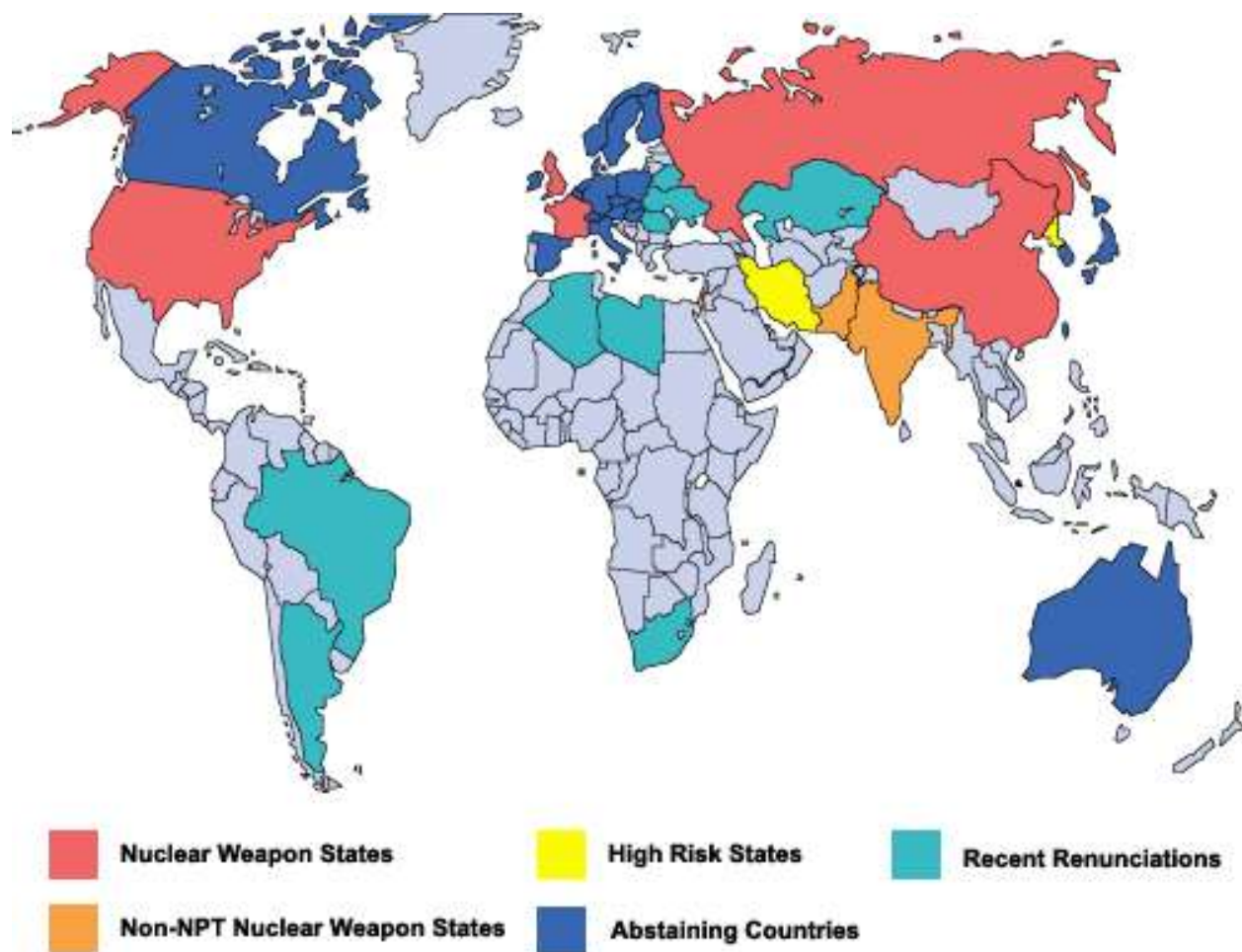
The international community made numerous attempts to bring North Korea back to the NPT. On 27th March, 1993, South Korea announced that it would consider stopping the Team Spirit military exercises if North Korea reversed its decision about NPT. On June 9, 1993, DPRK suspended its withdrawal from the NPT and expressed urgency concerning the long-standing dispute over inspections of facilities. Thus the dialogue on the nuclear issue began again.

On January 31, 1994, South Korea said it would proceed with the Team Spirit military exercises as planned unless North Korea allows the inspections of its nuclear facilities. In response to this DPRK announced the termination of construction of its graphite-moderated nuclear reactor in exchange for light water nuclear reactor technology and other economic incentives. On 21 October, the United States and DPRK signed an Agreed Framework. Under one of its provisions, both countries pledged to strive towards establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone on the Korean Peninsula. DPRK committed to take measures to implement the Joint Declaration. United States also announced cancellation of military exercises. However, the US House of Representatives urged the president to not ease or remove economic restriction on North Korea until the terms of the declaration are fulfilled.

In spite of the fact that Joint Declaration was signed in 1992, the last Joint Nuclear Control Committee was convened last in 1993. There had been no inspections as outlined by the framework of the Joint Declaration. In 2002 North

Korea admitted that they were conducting a secret uranium enrichment program which DPRK had committed to stop under the 1994 DPRK-US Agreed Framework. On 28 October a joint statement issued by the United States together with Japan and the ROK concluded that the DPRK's program was a violation of the North-South Joint Declaration on the Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.

3.4) Nuclear North Korea:



In January of 2003, Pyongyang withdrew from the Non-Proliferation Treaty and is not a member of Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) and neither is it a party to Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR). The DPRK is believed to have a huge chemical weapons program and it is not a party to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC). While North Korea is a party to the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BTWC) and Geneva Protocol, it is highly suspected

of maintaining an offensive biological weapons program in defying the provisions of that treaty.

North Korea has been interested in the nuclear weapons ever since the end of World War II. Pyongyang has developed a nuclear fuel cycle capability and various programs to enrich uranium capable of producing fissile material. North Korea declared that it had roughly 38.5kg of weapons-grade plutonium; however external estimates have been different from those officially declared. In November 2010, North Korea unveiled a uranium enrichment program that is supposed to produce low enriched uranium for power reactors. But it is very much possible for them to produce highly enriched uranium for nuclear weapons. North Korea has conducted three nuclear weapons tests so far in the years 2006, 2009 and 2013 which received heavy criticism from the international community.

The Six-Party Talks between North Korea, Japan, China, Russia, South Korea and the United States began in 2003 with the agenda of denuclearizing the Korean Peninsula. However, these talks have been suspended since April 2009. After the death of Kim Jong Il, North Korea was willing to suspend activities related to uranium enrichment and long range missile testing in return for aid in the form of food and other essential supplies for the United States. All that changed after a disagreement with the United States over the launch of a rocket in April 2012 and North Korea declared the agreement that had been reached upon as void, and later went on to conduct a nuclear test in February 2013. In April 2013, North Korean state media announced that Pyongyang would restart several nuclear facilities and satellite imagery confirmed the same. "All the nuclear facilities in Yongbyon including the uranium enrichment plant and 5 MW graphite-moderated reactors were rearranged, changed or readjusted and they started normal operation," the North's state-run KCNA news agency said, citing the director of its atomic agency.

North Korea is also developing Biological and Chemical weapons of mass destruction through its numerous programs. They have been conducting missile tests since the 1970s. North Korea is aggressively building its weapons arsenal and this is a serious security concern not only to South Korea but other parts of the world as well. It is not very surprising that United Nations has imposed sanctions on North Korea. The North Korean economy has taken a huge hit due to adverse climate and on top of that the harsh sanctions imposed by United Nations. And yet the cooperation from DPRK's side hasn't been convincing. The Non-Proliferation treaty forms the basis of building a world without the persistent threat of annihilation. The attitude of North Korea has been the reason for tensions in the Korean peninsula. The nuclear program of North Korea is the only real leverage that they have in negotiations and it is used as the means of protecting the third generation totalitarian dictatorship in North Korea.

3.5) Recent events:

There have been multiple events in recent years which have escalated the tensions in the Korean peninsula bringing the conflict to lime light. North Korea has multiple times threatened to destroy its neighbor South Korea and the United States in response to actions of South Korea or on its own accord.

In June 1999 and June 2002, naval battles erupted along the disputed water borders. June is the start of crab fishing season and Yellow Sea has abundance of blue crabs. A South Korean patrol boat sank and a North Korean boat was heavily damaged in the 2002 incident. There were casualties on both sides.

In June 2009, in a joint statement made by South Korea and United States, United States recommitted itself to protecting South Korea as well as keeping South Korea under its nuclear umbrella. "We will maintain a robust defense posture, backed by allied capabilities which support both nations' security interests," said the statement, released after a meeting between U.S. President Barack Obama and South Korean President Lee Myung-bak. "The continuing commitment of extended deterrence, including the U.S. nuclear umbrella, reinforces this assurance," the statement said. United States has a separate security alliance with South Korea since 1958 and it was reaffirmed after the 2006 nuclear tests by North Korea as well. The fact that South Korea is under nuclear umbrella of United States could be a provocation to North Korea to continue its nuclear tests and programs.

In 2010, a heavy torpedo hit the South Korean submarine Cheonan causing it sink near the disputed water border between North Korea and South Korea. South Korea believes that the torpedo was fired from a North Korean submarine because they are armed with such heavy torpedoes weighing around 200 kgs. The incident killed 46 South Korean sailors aboard the Cheonan.

In November 2010, one of the worst incidents since the Korean War, North Korea allegedly lobbed 170 shells at Yeonpyeong Island in November 2010.

In February 2013, North Korea test fired a nuclear missile igniting the views that North Korea is a threat to regional and world peace. Through this they also ascertained that they are moving closer to developing long range nuclear missiles. Even China joined the U.N. Security Council in a sanctions resolution after the 2013 test.

In March 2013, North Korea announced that it is cancelling the hotline and also reiterated threat made previously in anger of UNSC imposing more sanctions in a resolution after the 2013 nuclear tests by North Korea. UN Secretary General

Ban-Ki Moon said in a statement that the resolution "sent an unequivocal message to [North Korea] that the international community will not tolerate its pursuit of nuclear weapons".

In July 2013, North Korea said it was willing to resume the international talks on its nuclear programs provided the United States stop all acts of hostility towards North Korea, particularly the exercises planned in the month of August that year. "The DPRK (North Korea) will never give up its nuclear deterrent unless the U.S. fundamentally and irreversibly abandons its hostile policy and nuclear threat towards my country...and dissolves the U.N. Command, a mechanism which is an aggressive military tool against the DPRK," So Se Pyong, North Korea's ambassador to United Nations said. When asked about returning to nuclear talks, So said, "For six-party talks, we are now ready to have any kind of talks to ease the tension on the Korean Peninsula and to solve any kind of issues, mostly the security issues, because all the problems are security concerned (related)." He also pointed out that under the leadership of Kim Jong Un, North Korea is focusing more and more on economic development and quality of people's lives.

On March 31, 2014, North Korea fired more than 100 artillery rounds into South Korean waters as part of a drill on Monday, prompting the South to fire back, officials in Seoul said, but the exercise appeared to be more sabre-rattling from Pyongyang rather than the start of a military standoff.

On May 22, 2014, Residents of Yeonpyeong Island were ordered to move into bomb shelters as the North has fired artillery shells around the island without actually hitting. South reverted by firing 10 shots as warning. Tensions are especially high along the string of five South Korean islands that define the maritime frontier, known as the "Northern Limit Line" (NLL). Lately, the area has seen a sharp increase in artillery exchanges between the two Koreas.

On May 9, 2015, North Korea said that they successfully tested a submarine launched ballistic missile. The United States' officials are skeptical about the authenticity of the reports but South Korea is convinced that the images and reports are true thus adding fuel to the fire.

In June 2015, A South Korean naval ship has fired warning shots to chase off a North Korean patrol boat which crossed their disputed western sea border, military officials said. Also in a new agreement with the United States which allows South Korea to extend weapon's range to up to 800km now gives South Korea the ability to target whole of North Korea.

In August 2015, South Korea accused North Korea of planting land mines in the Demilitarized zone which killed two patrolling officers of South Korea. The United Nations command support South Korea and condemn this act which is attributed as provocation. As part of countermeasures South Korea started using

loud speakers to blare anti – Pyongyang broadcasts along the border. North Korea has denied that they had any involvement and were highly agitated by the loudspeakers along the border. DPRK claims that such anti-North broadcasts will be seen as an act of war and warned the South of serious consequences if the broadcasts continued. South Korea fires a barrage of artillery round into North Korea after North Korea shelled across the border as a protest against the broadcasts. North Korea's young leader, Kim Jong Un, would put his troops on a "fully armed state of war" starting from 5 p.m. on Friday and had declared a "quasi-state of war" in frontline areas, Pyongyang's official KCNA news agency reported. However after the marathon talks held between the two nations, North Korea expressed regret for its recent provocations and South Korea in return turned off the loudspeaker broadcasts along the border. The unusually long and rare meeting was held at Panmunjom truce village in the DMZ shortly after the deadline given by North Korea to South Korea to stop anti-Pyongyang propaganda broadcasts passed.

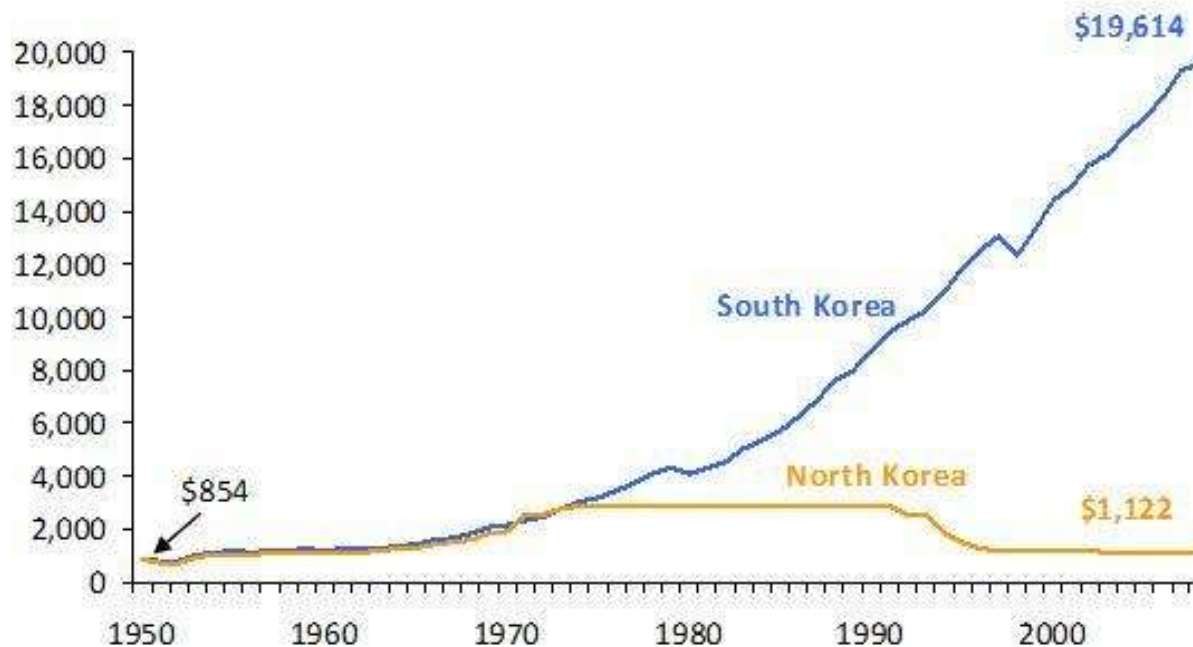
The North had deployed twice the usual artillery strength at the border and had more than 50 submarines away from base, the South's defense ministry said.

In September 2015, North Korea said on Tuesday its main nuclear complex was operating and it was working to improve the "quality and quantity" of weapons which it could use against the United States at "any time." These comments on North Korea's official news agency came shortly after their space agency announced that they are now going to launch a satellite subtly indicating that they can launch a long ranged missile as soon as October 10th, the anniversary of its ruling party. North Korea insists that the launch is part of its space program and has peaceful intentions but in any case such a launch is in violations of the international sanctions. The United States have close to 30,000 military personnel in South Korea and they have warned North Korea to refrain from any provocations or aggravations.

In 2015, cross-border tensions have remained high this year due to a series of North Korean ballistic missile tests, nuclear threats and annual US-South Korean military exercises.

3.7) Bias between the two Economies:

Institutions Matter:
Real Per Capita GDP in North and South Korea
(1990 International Dollars)



North Korea – North Korean economy is one of the least open economies in the world. It faces some very serious economic problems. The industrial capital stock is almost beyond repair due to years of underinvestment, shortage of necessary parts and maintenance skills. The spending on military programs and equipment is far too high and it draws resources and money from more elementary things such as investments and civilian consumption. Poor climate conditions and lack of fertile land have caused an acute shortage of food in North Korea. This coupled with inefficient farming methods make the situation worse. In the 1990s there were severe famines causing food shortage and mass starvation. During that time North Korea relied on foreign aid to cope with the situation. However, with the sanctions imposed the amount of aid provided has also decreased. A large population of North Korea has malnutrition. In recent years the food production has steadily improved. Since 2002, the government has allowed informal markets to sell a larger variety of goods. The government made a simultaneous crackdown on use of foreign currency and markets which led to severe shortages and inflation. In response to the sinking of Cheonan warship and shelling on South Korean islands, South Korea cutoff most aid to the North as well as ended bilateral cooperation activities with a few exceptions. The firm political control is an issue that is

hindering the economy from prospering and will inhibit and major changes to the economy.

South Korea –

There is a stark contrast between the two economies in the Korean peninsula. Unlike its northern counterpart, South Korea has shown tremendous economic development in the last 40 years. After the Korean war the GDP per capita of South Korea was comparable with the poorest countries in the world but they have come a long way since that. Now they have joined the trillion dollar club of world economies. The government promoted the import of raw materials and technology at the expense of consumer goods, and encouraged savings and investment over consumption. South Korea adopted numerous reforms following the Asian economic crisis. The growth of South Korean economy has been somewhat sluggish in the recent years and they face a variety of problems such as rapidly aging population, lack of internal consumption of goods, and more. However they are adopting more and more reforms and promoting new small and medium size enterprises to get out of it. They are far ahead of their northern neighbor on most fronts.

3.8) Security Council Resolutions

- 1) S/RES/88 (1950) Complaint of aggression upon the Republic of Korea
- 2) S/RES/90 (1951) Complaint of aggression upon the Republic of Korea
- 3) S/RES/702 (1991) Admission of new Members: Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Republic of Korea
- 4) S/RES/825 (1993) Non-proliferation/Democratic People's Republic of Korea
- 5) S/RES/1718 (2006) - Non-proliferation/Democratic People's Republic of Korea
- 6) S/RES/1874 (2009) - Non-proliferation/Democratic People's Republic of Korea
- 7) S/RES/1928 (2010) - Non-proliferation/Democratic People's Republic of Korea
- 8) S/RES/1985 (2011) - Non-proliferation/Democratic People's Republic of Korea
- 9) S/RES/2050 (2012) - Non-proliferation/Democratic People's Republic of Korea
- 10) S/RES/2094 (2013) - Non-proliferation/Democratic People's Republic of Korea
- 11) S/RES/2087 (2013) - Non-proliferation/Democratic People's Republic of Korea

12) S/RES/2141 (2014) - Non-proliferation/Democratic People's Republic of Korea

13) S/RES/2207 (2015) - Non-proliferation/Democratic People's Republic of Korea

3.8) Presidential Statements:

1) S/PRST/1994/64 - 4 November 1994 - Democratic People's Republic of Korea

2) S/PRST/1994/28 - 26 May 1994 - Democratic People's Republic of Korea

3) S/PRST/1994/13 - 23 March 1994 - Democratic People's Republic of Korea

4) S/PRST/1996/42 - 15 October 1996 - Korean Armistice Agreement

5) S/PRST/2009/7 - 13 April 2009 - Non-proliferation/Democratic People's Republic of Korea

6) S/PRST/2010/13 - 9 July 2010 - Letter dated 4 June 2010 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2010/281) and other relevant letters

7) S/PRST/2012/13 - 16 April 2012 - Non-proliferation/Democratic People's Republic of Korea

3.10) References

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4. <http://www.un.org/en/sc/documents/>

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iii) <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/06/17/northkorea-islands-idUSL3N0OG20Q20140617>

iv) <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/03/31/korea-north-idUSL4N0MS08I20140331>

v) <http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/09/15/northkorea-nuclear-idUSKCN0RF0HG20150915>

vi) <http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/06/03/us-southkorea-missile-idUSKBN0OJ0YM20150603>

vii) <http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/05/09/northkorea-submarine-idUSL4N0Y003420150509>

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