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INTELLIGENCE



**250 HWASONG-11D
FOR BORDER GUARDS**

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

S U M M A R Y

North Korea held a ceremony to hand over 250 Hwasong-11D operational-tactical missile launchers to the KPA, an unprecedented batch. These missiles have a range of just over 200 km, similar to the Soviet "Tochka-U." This quantity can equip over 20 brigades, each with 12 launchers. In comparison, the last Soviet army year had 15 brigades with 12-16 launchers each. Each launcher is equipped with four missiles, making a volley of 1,000 missiles possible.

Simpler, numerous, and cheaper missiles are crucial in North Korea's missile forces. While high-performance missiles like the KN-23 are produced at a slower rate, simpler missiles are cheaper and easier to mass-produce, accurate, and reliable. These can also have nuclear variants. These developments underscore North Korea's ongoing efforts to enhance its military strength and nuclear deterrence capabilities.



NEW TACTICAL BALLISTIC MISSILE LAUNCHERS

- Introduction: Kim Jong-un unveiled 250 new tactical ballistic missile launchers at a recent military event. These launchers are designed to deploy short-range ballistic missiles and are intended to bolster North Korea's rapid deployment capabilities.
- Event Details: The unveiling took place in Pyongyang and was marked by a large ceremony with military demonstrations and public displays. This expansion reflects North Korea's strategy to enhance its military readiness and regional deterrence.
- Strategic Importance: The new launchers are equipped to handle tactical ballistic missiles capable of carrying lower-yield nuclear warheads. This development aims to increase North Korea's firepower and operational efficiency, particularly in scenarios involving rapid military engagements.



RECENT MISSILE TEST

- **Missile Type:** North Korea tested a new type of strategic ballistic missile, which is an advanced version of their existing arsenal. This missile can carry various payloads, including potentially nuclear ones.
- **Performance:** The missile was successfully launched from North Korean territory and hit its intended target. This test is part of North Korea's broader strategy to demonstrate its advanced missile technology and strategic capabilities.
- **Purpose and Implications:** The test serves multiple purposes, including showcasing North Korea's continued development in missile technology and signaling its capability to deliver strategic payloads. This move is likely intended to pressure the U.S. into acknowledging North Korea as a nuclear power and to push for the lifting of international sanctions.
- **International Reaction:** The test has been met with widespread condemnation from neighboring countries and the international community, raising concerns about regional security and escalating military tensions.

MILITARY STRATEGY AND REGIONAL IMPACT

- **Expansion of Military Capabilities:** North Korea's recent developments align with its broader strategy to increase its military assets and capabilities. This includes both mobile short-range missiles designed to counter South Korean defenses and intercontinental ballistic missiles aimed at reaching the U.S. mainland.
- **Regional Tensions:** The introduction of new missile launchers and the recent missile test are expected to heighten regional tensions and concern among neighboring countries. The focus on expanding military technology amid ongoing international scrutiny reflects North Korea's persistent aim to strengthen its strategic posture.
- **Contextual Factors:** Kim Jong-un's emphasis on military expansion is set against a backdrop of strained relations with the U.S. and ongoing disputes over North Korea's nuclear program. Recent natural disasters, including flooding, and increased aid from Russia highlight North Korea's strategy to align with countries opposed to U.S. policies and to present a united front in broader geopolitical conflicts.

CONCLUSION

North Korea's latest military advancements, including the unveiling of new missile launchers and recent missile tests, underscore a significant escalation in the country's military capabilities. These developments are likely to impact regional stability and provoke further international responses. Ongoing monitoring of North Korea's military activities and strategic posture remains crucial.





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