

Resorting to War is Easier and More Dangerous than Before, Peace is Much More Challenging – The Fire & Fury edition

PROMPT: North Korea's nuclear proliferation activities pose a pressing national security threat for the United States and its allies. Describe the proliferation concerns and recommend a course of action.

The ever-rising threat of North Korea's nuclear proliferation activities has proven to be something Washington would be foolish to undermine, particularly in the past month. On July 4th, North Korea tested its first fully functioning Intercontinental Ballistic Missile. The overall testing was a success on North Korea's end and propelled their nuclear program forward in a way that Washington didn't see coming. Due to the testing of this missile, we now know that North Korea is fully capable of launching a missile that could strike both [Alaska and Hawaii](#). That being said, in the recent week Washington has begun to engage with the nuclear threats North Korea has been making for quite some time now. The exchanging of Trump's threats only angered the North Korean's and led to a new threat of attacking [Guam](#), home to many American citizens and military personnel. The reality of an attack on Guam would not only result in American casualties but also could affect other U.S. allies such as Japan and the Philippines. Due to North Korean testing occurring deep beneath [mountains](#), it is tough to calculate the exact strength of the missiles North Korea has constructed. The proliferation concerns at this point are the immediate threat imposed on Washington as well as her allies, in addition to the fear of the unknown capacity of the North Korean nuclear program. Diplomacy has been something the U.S. has constantly tried and failed with when dealing with a nuclear North Korea. More recently, Trump has attempted using more aggressive [language](#) Kim Jong Un would understand, but this only escalated the matter and led to the threatening of [Guam](#). It is clear that Washington is stuck between a rock and hard place and any course of action has its downfalls, but under no circumstance should we let this dispute result in a catastrophic nuclear war. The first course of action the U.S. should take is to make sure the people of Guam are prepared for the worst. Next, the U.S. must try peaceful negotiation once more. Although this method has failed in the past, China has urged U.S. restraint and due to North Korea's heavily reliance upon them, they would eventually comply to the Chinese. We must once more come to the negotiating table and realize that there is no "[realistic military solution](#)" and aim to diffuse the forefront of a nuclear war that no one wants.