

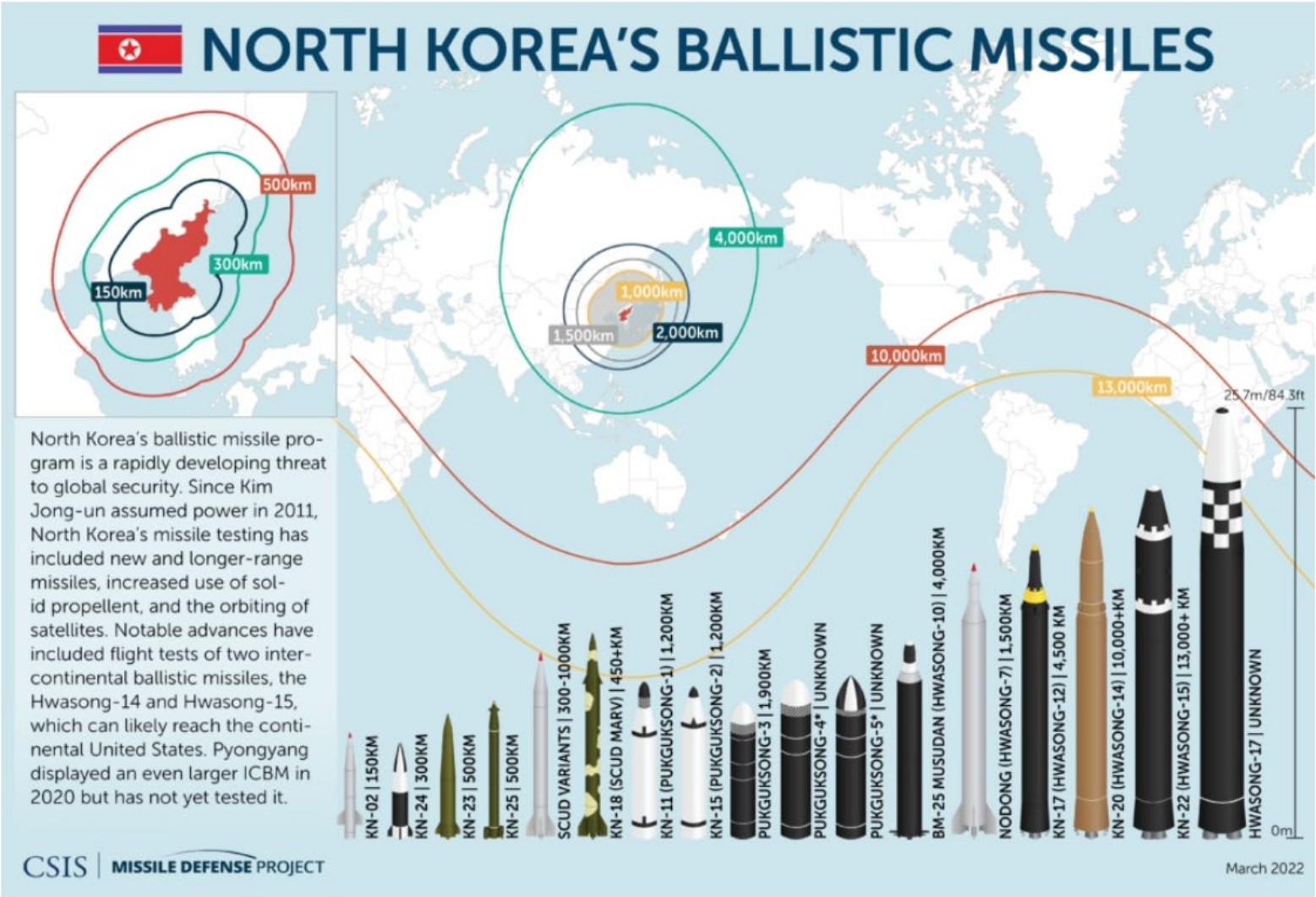


# Korean People's Army – Nuclear Weapons and Ballistic Missiles



U.S. ARMY

(U) This infographic provides an overview of the Korean People’s Army – Nuclear Weapons and Ballistic Missiles. North Korea has sought to become a nuclear power for decades. Its nuclear program started in the 1950s, but its significant progress occurred after it withdrew from the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons in 2002. The country conducted its first underground nuclear test in 2006 and discloses very few details about its nuclear weapons.



North Korea has relied on asymmetric capabilities and weapons of mass destruction as a national security strategy due to the growing obsolescence of its conventional military capabilities. Pyongyang has made significant investments in developing long-range ballistic missiles and miniaturizing its nuclear weapons stockpile. These capabilities are used to deter external threats to the Kim family regime by holding military forces and population centers at risk.

North Korea currently possesses an estimated 50 nuclear weapons and has the capacity to produce six to seven new nuclear weapons annually. Additionally, the country has amassed significant quantities of chemical and biological weapons.

Missile Name	Class	Range	Status	Warhead Type
<a href="#">BM-25 Musudan</a>	IRBM	2,500 - 4,000 km	In Development	HE or nuclear
<a href="#">Hwasong-12</a>	IRBM	4,500 km	In Development	Nuclear or conventional
<a href="#">Hwasong-14 (KN-20)</a>	ICBM	10,400 km	Operational	HE or nuclear
<a href="#">Hwasong-15 (KN-22)</a>	ICBM	8,500 - 13,000 km	In Development	Unknown
<a href="#">Hwasong-5</a>	SRBM	300 km	Operational	HE, potential chemical, biological, submunition payloads
<a href="#">Hwasong-6</a>	SRBM	500 km	Operational	HE, chemical, biological, nuclear
<a href="#">Hwasong 7 (Nodong 1)</a>	MRBM	1,200 - 1,500 km	Operational	Unknown
<a href="#">Hwasong-9</a>	MRBM	800 - 1,000 km	Operational	Chemical, HE or submunition
<a href="#">KN-02 (Toksa)</a>	SRBM	120 - 170 km	Operational	HE, chemical, or submunition
<a href="#">KN-18 (Scud MaRV)</a>	SRBM	450+ km	In Development	Unknown
<a href="#">KN-23</a>	SRBM	450 km	Unknown	Unknown
<a href="#">KN-24</a>	SRBM	410 km	In Development	Unknown
<a href="#">KN-25</a>	SRBM	380 km	Operational	Unknown, likely HE
<a href="#">Pukguksong-1 (KN-11)</a>	SLBM	1,200 km	In Development	Unknown
<a href="#">Pukguksong-2 (KN-15)</a>	MRBM	1,200 - 2,000 km	Operational	Unknown
<a href="#">Pukguksong-3 (KN-26)</a>	SLBM	1,900 km	Operational	Unknown

IRBM - intermediate-range ballistic missile; ICBM - intercontinental ballistic missile; SRBM - short-range ballistic missile; MRBM - medium-range ballistic missile; SLBM - submarine-launched ballistic missile; HE - High Explosive; km - kilometre

Sources: [North Korea Military Power](#) (DIA) [North Korea and weapons of mass destruction](#) (Wikipedia) [Missiles of North Korea](#) (CSIS)



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