



North Korea – Electronic Warfare Capability

U.S. ARMY

(U) This infographic provides an overview of North Korea's Electronic Warfare Capability. North Korea sees Electronic Warfare (EW) as crucial in countering the threat from advanced Western weapon systems and precision-guided munitions, as well as denying and disrupting enemy command and control, targeting, and intelligence-gathering efforts. They have operated GPS jammers near the DMZ, at times interfering with navigation systems on commercial aircraft in the area.

Organization

- EW occurs above the tactical level, but the EW activities conducted at the strategic and operational level still affect operations at the tactical level.
- The oversight of all EW and signals intelligence (SIGINT) assets in the Army is managed by the Electronic Warfare Bureau (EWB).
- Each of the four Korean People's Army Ground Forces (KPAGF) forward-deployed corps (I, II, IV, and V) are assigned a communications regiment and an SIGINT/EW battalion with administrative control by the KPAGF corps headquarters.
- Division-level SIGINT/EW units deployed near the DMZ are tasked with operations within a range of 15-30 km from the US/ROK force deployment, while corps-level SIGINT/EW battalions cover a depth of up to 75-150 km.
- Furthermore, independent units of the EWB are poised to provide crucial support to corps and divisional efforts.
- The primary EW capability at all levels of the KPA is jamming of the enemy's electronic systems. Since at least 2000, various KPA units have conducted jamming of South Korean and U.S. communications and radar systems. These attacks have affected the airports around Seoul for short periods of time.



The Electronic Warfare Jamming Regiment

A military unit with a membership between 2,000 and 3,000. The KPA's electronic warfare assets are from the EW Jamming Regiment based in Pyongyang. This regiment consists of three subordinate battalions located in Kaesong, Haeja, and Kumgang, which can be assigned to the KPA's four corps. At the divisional level, KPA units may have an allocated EW battalion or a similar company-sized formation. Specific details about the army's EW equipment are not well-known.

Targets

- The DPRK considers EW crucial for countering Western technology and capabilities, particularly precision-guided munitions and telecommunications.
- The KPA has deployed Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) jammers near its border with South Korea, causing interference to GNSS systems used by some commercial aircraft flying south of the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), which serves as the de facto border between the two countries.
- The goal is not necessarily to defeat the US in battle, but rather to inflict enough damage on the US and its allies to cause collapse through loss of resolve.
- The DPRK employs Electronic Intelligence Warfare (EIW) to identify and understand decisions made by the adversary (Red Force) and their impact on the strategic, operational, and tactical objectives of the DPRK's armed forces.
- EIW seeks to nullify and influence these decisions and future actions of the Red Force using electronic warfare.
- It is used in conjunction with cyber/information warfare, kinetic attacks, deception, and surveillance, with a strong focus on making EIW as invisible to the enemy as possible.