North Korea

Country Profile

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DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA (DPRK)

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) is a country in East Asia. It is bordered by China to the north, Russia to the west, and South Korea to the south. The Korean War, which ended in 1953, was fought between the DPRK and South Korea, with the United States providing support to South Korea.

After the Korean War, the DPRK was recognized as a sovereign state. It has been involved in various international disputes, including conflicts with South Korea, the United States, and other countries. The DPRK is known for its self-reliance policy and its nuclear program.

LANDMINES/UXO OVERVIEW

The DPRK produces at least two types of AP mines, but their production is not widespread. Although not officially acknowledged, it is suspected that the DPRK possesses landmines and other UXO.

REALITY CHECK

The United Nations reported that two South Korean farmers were killed by DPRK troops in the DMZ in October 2022. This incident highlights the ongoing tension between the two Koreas and the potential for conflict.

PAKISTAN

Pakistan was officially declared an independent sovereign state on August 14, 1947, following the partition of the British Indian Empire. The country has been involved in various conflicts, including the war with India, the martial law periods, and the military operations in the former Soviet Union.

In recent years, Pakistan has contributed to U.N. mine clearance missions, though no official clearance operations have occurred in Pakistan. Soldiers have participated in U.N. demining operations in Cambodia, Kuwait, Angola, and Western Sahara.

The Pakistani army is estimated to have over 136,000 soldiers and 149,000 reservists. It is the world's 6th largest army and has the world's largest military budget.

LANDMINES/UXO OVERVIEW

Pakistan Ordnance Factories (POF) is Pakistan's primary producer of landmines. A government-imposed moratorium on landmine production during a negotiation to affirm Amended Protocol II has since limited the volume of landmines produced to comply with the protocol's provisions. However, the country supports the eventual termination of landmine use, asserting that security concerns are paramount due to potential conflict with India and the situations in Jammu and Kashmir.

REALITY CHECK

Recent events have only deteriorated Pakistan's situation. The assassinations of Iranian diplomats and the ongoing dispute with India have led to tension between Pakistan and Iran. This has caused Pakistan to deploy troops along its border with Afghanistan. In response, Iran has publicly threatened military intervention.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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PAKISTAN

History

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Landmines/UXO Overview

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