

South Koreans At North's Edge Cope With Threat Of War

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MUNSAN, South Korea — Lee Jae-eun retrieved her squirming twins from day care and barely glanced up



at the Blackhawk helicopter that swept overhead, just above the high-rise apartment buildings. Even in peaceful times, low-flying military aircraft are a common sight in this residential community near the heavily fortified border that separates capitalist South Korea from the communist North. But these are not placid times, and the roaring helicopters are one more reminder of rising tensions wrought by North Korea's recent barrage of war threats. Ms. Lee, a 34-year-old homemaker, said residents have resigned themselves to

living with the constant risk, and occasional tantrums, from their bellicose northern neighbor.

In recent weeks, the heavily armed North's cherub-faced young leader, Kim Jong-un, has threatened South Korea and the United States with nuclear attack, declaring that a "state of war" exists on the Korean Peninsula. Refusing to be cowed, South Korea's newly elected president, Park Geun-hye, the democratic nation's first female leader, responded by ordering her generals to strike back if provoked. Despite the steady drumbeat of war talk, life seems to go on as usual in most of South Korea, the industrial powerhouse that lifted itself from the ashes of the 1950-53 Korean War to become one of Asia's economic success stories. Nowhere is the determination to hold on to the South's hard-won middle-class living standards more apparent than in Munsan, a distant suburb of the capital of Seoul that sits on the edge of the tense border: the demilitarized zone, which lies where the fighting stopped 60 years ago. Once a collection of farming villages known for their local delicacy of tasty eel, Munsan was transformed into a boomtown of tall white apartment buildings and neon-lighted shops a decade ago during an era of political rapprochement with the North and soaring property prices in the fast-growing South. More recently, development has slowed after the global financial crisis hurt the South's export-driven economy and new tensions with the North have scared away some prospective buyers. Some of the 47,000 residents who live here now say they have learned to accept the helicopters' near-constant rattling of their windows, and the columns of tanks that sometimes block roads during training exercises, making their children late for school. They say they have also learned how to ignore the rows of concrete bunkers and guard towers along the highway they use every morning to commute to Seoul, 35 miles to the south. When pressed, many residents admit to feeling anxiety about the intensity of the North's most recent threats, and the fact that its nuclear arsenal is controlled by an untested, unpredictable leader. Some also partly blame their own country for imposing sanctions on the North, a closed and impoverished country. In the event of an attack, residents would be led to one of nine underground bomb shelters that the city built after the North's last violent provocation, the artillery bombardment of a South Korean island three years ago that killed two civilians. The shelters have been freshly stocked with flashlights, medicine, gas masks and first-aid kits, officials said.

1. In appropriate paragraph form, compare and contrast the pros and cons synonymous with proactively employing such intensive preparation in the event of war. Do you personally this ordeal will escalate to combat operations involving U.S. Armed Forces who have remained on South Korean soil in excess of 60 years? Thoroughly explain your reasoning and provide specific artifacts and evidence not limited solely to passage above to support your response. Create and illustrate Venn Diagrams to effectively explore relationships and patterns and to make arguments about relationships between sets. **(LA.910.3.2.2; LA.910.1.6.2; MA.912.D.7.2; MA.912.A.10.1)**
2. The gear ratio of two gears in a piece of North Korean artillery is the ratio of the number of teeth of the larger gear to the smaller. In a set of three gears, the ratio of gear A to B is equal to the ratio of gear B to C. A has 36 teeth whereas C contains 16. How many does B have? Identify the means and extremes of the proportion. **((MA.912.D.6.4; MA.912.G.8.2; MA.912.G.8.4; MA.912.G.8.5;))**
3. It has become increasingly evident to ensure a safe and orderly evacuation, two additional intersecting tunnels must be established, one parallel to the existing tunnel and the other perpendicular. The equation of the line representing the existing tunnel is $y = 2/3x - 7/8$. Identify the equations of the lines representing the new tunnels **(MA.912.A.3.10 – MA.912.A.3.11)**
4. Identify and thoroughly support your reasoning regarding which of the following that best describes the author's attitude toward the subject matter discussed: flippant disregard, mild frustration, passive resignation or an informed citizen. Explain the primary purpose of this passage and identify any indicators, which suggest the author may inadvertently possess a bias favoring South Koreans. Provide an inference that residents may derive. **(RI.9-10.1 – 10.6)**
5. Using contextual clues only, determine the most complete and accurate definitions of following italicized terms: *provocation*, *rapprochement*, *impoverished*, *demilitarized*, *bellicose*, *fortified*, and *placid* as obtained from the passage above. Additionally, use each word in a complete sentence to demonstrate further comprehension. **(LA.910.1.6.3; LA.910.1.6.1)**
6. **SARASOTA MILITARY ACADEMY WORD-OF-THE-WEEK** Create a concluding paragraph aligned with the passage above using the following italicized word: *Marauder* (muh RAWD er) n. A raider or intruder **(LA.910.1.6.1; LA.910.1.6.5)**

Next Generation Sunshine State Standards adapted from floridastandards.org. Standards specifically addressed in this edition are strategically aligned with state standards and annotated adjacent to the respective inquiry.

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