

NORTH KOREA SECURITY ANALYSIS REPORT

AI-Assisted Open Source Intelligence Assessment

Analysis Period: October 26, 2026 - November 02, 2026

This report was produced using open-source intelligence analysis. The assessment is grounded in publicly available reporting and should be cross-referenced with primary sources. RSS feed articles are listed in the annex for reference.

Executive Summary

North Korea demonstrated a heightened state of military readiness and aggressive posturing during the reporting period, marked by significant border provocations and advanced weapons demonstrations. Tensions escalated on the inter-Korean border with the deployment of artillery and armored vehicles in the Demilitarized Zone, alongside accusations of South Korean fabrication regarding a September landmine incident. Pyongyang also showcased a diverse array of unmanned aerial vehicles and conducted a test of a tactical ballistic missile cluster warhead, while reaffirming its commitment to rapidly expanding its nuclear deterrent in response to US-South Korea joint military exercises. Concurrently, North Korea's illicit cyber activities reached an unprecedented level with a record-breaking cryptocurrency heist, underscoring its reliance on such operations to fund its weapons programs.

Key Security Developments

- Border Provocations and DMZ Fortification

On October 26, a North Korean self-propelled 122-mm howitzer was observed near the heavily armed border with South Korea, a rare public display of such artillery. Additionally, three North Korean armored vehicles were spotted with gun barrels pointed south, and approximately 20 to 30 soldiers were seen conducting fencing work inside the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ). These actions, coupled with North Korea's ongoing border fortification efforts, including laying mines and erecting fences, particularly extending to the western border, significantly heighten inter-Korean tensions and violate the Korean War Armistice Agreement.

- Accusations Regarding Landmine Incident

On October 26, Pyongyang sent a letter to the UN Security Council, accusing South Korea of fabricating a September 21 landmine incident in the DMZ that injured three South Korean soldiers. North Korea warned that violations of its sovereignty could trigger self-defense measures and that South Korea would be "wholly accountable for all the ensuing consequences." This diplomatic maneuver, rather than engaging in bilateral talks proposed by Seoul on October 23, indicates North Korea's preference for an adversarial track to contest facts and deflect blame.

- Advanced Drone and Missile Demonstrations

On October 29, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un attended an exhibition titled "Unmanned Aeronautical Technology Development-2026," where over 30 types of

unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) were displayed, including a previously unseen flying-wing drone resembling Russia's S-70 Okhotnik. Demonstrations included tactical suicide attack drones, tactical cruise missiles, air-to-surface missiles, and 600mm multiple rocket launchers (MRLs). Kim Jong Un emphasized the development of artificial intelligence (AI) for future military systems, signaling a strategic focus on modernizing and diversifying North Korea's asymmetric warfare capabilities.

- Tactical Ballistic Missile Cluster Warhead Test

On October 31, North Korea's Missile Administration conducted a test of a tactical ballistic missile scatterable munition (cluster warhead) to assess its combat applicability and destructive power. State media claimed the "Standard Type 2 cluster-bomb warhead" is capable of devastating a target area of 12 to 13 hectares. Pyongyang outlined plans to enable military units to use four categories of these weapons by the end of 2026, indicating an accelerated program to integrate such capabilities for wide-area damage against potential South Korean and US military bases.

- Denouncement of US-ROK Military Drills and Nuclear Deterrent Vow

On November 1, North Korea denounced the recent US-South Korea "Freedom Flag" air exercise (which began October 26) and the "Iron Mace" combined military exercise (Sept 29-Oct 2), calling the latter a "hideous nuclear war rehearsal." Kim Jong-sik, a Workers' Party of Korea official, stated that strengthening North Korea's nuclear capabilities at an "ever faster pace" is an "immutable" national defense policy to counter such threats. This rhetoric underscores Pyongyang's unwavering commitment to its nuclear program as a core deterrent.

- Record-Breaking Cryptocurrency Heist

On October 29, North Korea's TraderTraitor hacking group (also known as Lazarus Group) was blamed by US authorities for stealing over US$6 billion in virtual assets from Binance, marking the largest crypto heist in history. The FBI, along with USSS and IRS-CI, observed TraderTraitor actors converting stolen assets primarily into Ethereum (ETH) for laundering. This incident highlights North Korea's sophisticated cyber capabilities and its increasing reliance on illicit cyber activities to generate funds for its weapons programs, with North Korea accounting for 85% of all crypto hack value worldwide in 2026 so far.

- Cyber Espionage Campaign "Operation FlashHole"

On October 27, Russian cybersecurity company Kaspersky attributed the North Korea-linked Lazarus Group to a cyber espionage campaign dubbed "Operation FlashHole." Active since at least July 2025, this campaign targets at least three organizations in South Korea across the construction, software, and wire-communication equipment manufacturing sectors. The group abuses mandatory financial security software, such as Initech's INISAFE CrossWeb EX, to breach targets,

demonstrating persistent efforts to infiltrate South Korean networks for intelligence gathering and financial gain.

- Kim Jong Un's Visit to China and Economic Cooperation

On October 24, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un made an unannounced day trip to the Chinese border city of Dandong, crossing the newly opened New Yalu River Bridge. He met with Wang Huning, China's No. 4 official, and visited the Memorial Hall of the War to Resist US Aggression and Aid Korea, reaffirming the "blood alliance" and laying groundwork for deeper economic cooperation. China's Foreign Ministry emphasized its "unwavering strategic policy" to develop relations, indicating a strengthening of bilateral ties, potentially balancing North Korea's growing relationship with Russia.

- Continued Russia-North Korea Alignment

Russia continued to strengthen its diplomatic and strategic ties with North Korea, building on the 2024 Treaty on Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. This deepening relationship is underscored by North Korea's ongoing supply of ammunition, ballistic missiles, and personnel to Russia for the war in Ukraine, with concerns about potential reciprocal transfers of Russian military technologies to Pyongyang. This partnership provides North Korea with alternative sources of support, potentially reducing its urgency for denuclearization talks with the US.

- DDoS Attacks on North Korean Websites

Beginning October 20, North Korea's public internet services experienced significant disruptions for approximately 32 hours due to DDoS attacks, affecting over 40 government websites, including the foreign ministry and state news agency KCNA. While no specific attacker was publicly identified, the incident highlights vulnerabilities in North Korea's tightly controlled internet infrastructure and could be a retaliatory cyber action or a test of capabilities by an unknown actor.

Geopolitical Impact and Regional Dynamics

North Korea's actions during this period significantly heightened regional instability and complicated diplomatic efforts. The overt military posturing along the DMZ, including the deployment of a howitzer and armored vehicles, directly escalated tensions with South Korea. Pyongyang's refusal to engage in bilateral military talks with Seoul regarding the September landmine incident, opting instead to lodge accusations with the UN Security Council, demonstrates a continued unwillingness to de-escalate through direct dialogue. This aggressive stance forces South Korea and its allies to maintain a high state of alert and reinforces the perception of North Korea as a persistent threat to peace on the Korean Peninsula.

The strengthening of North Korea's "blood alliance" with China, evidenced by Kim Jong Un's visit to Dandong and the opening of the New Yalu River Bridge, signals a renewed focus on economic cooperation and strategic alignment between the two nations. This development, alongside North Korea's deepening military partnership with Russia, creates a complex dynamic where Pyongyang leverages support from both Beijing and Moscow. This dual-pronged approach provides North Korea with alternative sources of economic and military assistance, potentially reducing its isolation and diminishing the effectiveness of international sanctions. The US, South Korea, and Japan's reaffirmation of commitment to "complete denuclearization" at the G20 meeting on October 31 stands in stark contrast to North Korea's declared "immutable" policy of accelerating its nuclear deterrent, indicating a widening gap in strategic objectives with major powers.

The speculation surrounding a potential meeting between US President Donald Trump and Kim Jong Un at the upcoming APEC summit in China adds another layer of complexity. While such a meeting could offer a diplomatic opening, North Korea's continued rejection of denuclearization as a precondition for talks and its ongoing military advancements suggest that any engagement would face significant hurdles. The deepening ties with Russia, including troop deployments to Ukraine in exchange for potential military and economic assistance, further complicates Washington's efforts to isolate Pyongyang and pressure it towards denuclearization. The regional dynamics are thus characterized by escalating inter-Korean tensions, a strengthened North Korea-China-Russia axis, and a challenging environment for multilateral denuclearization efforts.

Military and Defense Analysis

North Korea's military posture during this period reflects a clear strategy of enhancing its asymmetric capabilities and asserting its sovereignty through force. The deployment of a self-propelled 122-mm howitzer and armored vehicles in the DMZ on October 26, along with ongoing border fortification efforts including mine-laying and fencing, demonstrates a willingness to directly challenge the armistice agreement and project military presence in sensitive border areas. This is a tactical shift aimed at creating facts on the ground and potentially provoking responses from South Korea. The detection of approximately ten projectiles, believed to be 600mm multiple rocket launchers (KN-25), launched from Wonsan on October 29, further underscores the development and readiness of systems capable of delivering tactical nuclear warheads against South Korean targets.

The "Unmanned Aeronautical Technology Development-2026" exhibition on October 29, showcasing over 30 types of UAVs, including a flying-wing drone and various tactical attack drones, highlights a significant modernization program in unmanned

warfare. Kim Jong Un's emphasis on AI development for military systems indicates a long-term strategic investment in advanced technologies to enhance reconnaissance, precision-strike, and unmanned combat capabilities. The successful test of a tactical ballistic missile cluster warhead on October 31, with plans for operational deployment by year-end, signifies a dangerous development in North Korea's conventional arsenal, capable of inflicting widespread damage on airfields and artillery positions. These developments collectively point to a defense spending trend focused on diversifying missile and drone capabilities, improving their evasion characteristics, and integrating them into a more sophisticated, unified fire-control system, as observed in earlier 2026 drills. North Korea's continued supply of weapons and personnel to Russia also suggests a practical avenue for gaining combat experience and potentially acquiring advanced military technologies.

Outlook and Forecast

Short-term trends (1-3 months): In the immediate future, North Korea is likely to maintain its assertive stance on the inter-Korean border, continuing fortification efforts and potentially engaging in further localized provocations to test South Korean and international resolve. The denunciation of US-South Korea joint military exercises and the explicit vow to accelerate nuclear deterrent strengthening suggest continued rhetoric and possibly further missile tests or military demonstrations in response to allied drills. We can anticipate a continued focus on cyber operations, particularly cryptocurrency heists, as a primary means of funding its weapons programs, with the TraderTraitor group remaining highly active. Diplomatic engagement, particularly with the US, will likely remain stalled unless there is a significant shift in North Korea's denuclearization stance or a change in the US's preconditions for talks.

Critical flashpoints and risk areas: The Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) and the western maritime border remain critical flashpoints, with the risk of accidental or intentional clashes escalating due to North Korean military deployments and fortification activities. Any further missile launches, especially those involving new or advanced capabilities like the cluster warhead or flying-wing drones, could trigger strong reactions from South Korea, Japan, and the US. The ongoing cyber warfare poses a significant risk to global financial institutions and critical infrastructure, with the potential for widespread economic disruption. The deepening military and economic ties with Russia and China could also create geopolitical friction, particularly if these alliances are perceived as undermining international sanctions or regional stability.

Indicators to monitor: Key indicators to monitor include any further North Korean military movements or construction within the DMZ, particularly near sensitive areas like Gimpo or Ganghwa. Observe the frequency and nature of missile tests, especially those involving new technologies like hypersonic glide vehicles or advanced drones,

and any associated state media pronouncements. Track the activities of North Korean cyber threat groups like TraderTraitor and Lazarus, and the volume of cryptocurrency stolen, as this directly correlates with funding for illicit programs. Monitor diplomatic statements and actions from China and Russia regarding their support for North Korea, as well as any signs of a shift in US policy towards engagement. Finally, watch for any resumption of propaganda broadcasts along the border, which could signal a further escalation of psychological warfare.

Strategic recommendations: To mitigate risks, a multi-faceted approach is recommended. First, strengthen deterrence and defense capabilities on the Korean Peninsula through enhanced US-ROK-Japan military exercises and intelligence sharing, focusing on counter-UAV and missile defense systems. Second, intensify international cooperation to counter North Korea's cyber financing networks, including stricter enforcement of sanctions and improved cybersecurity defenses for financial institutions. Third, maintain open channels for diplomatic engagement with North Korea, even while upholding denuclearization as the ultimate goal, to prevent miscalculation and explore opportunities for de-escalation. Fourth, engage China and Russia to leverage their influence on Pyongyang, emphasizing the shared interest in regional stability and non-proliferation. Finally, continue to publicly expose and condemn North Korea's illicit activities to maintain international pressure and delegitimize its actions.

Structured Assessment

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ANNEX: COLLECTED ARTICLES BY SOURCE

Source: NK News

• North Korea tests cluster warhead, plans military use by end of 2026 (2026-11-01 01:18)

This is a developing story. Please check back for updates. (Last updated Nov. 1, 2026 at 10:56 a.m. KST with a comment from South Korea’s Joint Chiefs of Staff) North Korea tested a cluster warhead intended for tactical ballistic missiles on Saturday, state media reported, outlining plans to enable military units to use four categories […]

• All the world’s a stage: Why North Korea put artillery on display at the border (2026-10-30 08:52)

Earlier this week, a small park on the inter-Korean border, about an hour’s drive from Seoul, became the center of media attention. The reason was that North Korean artillery had appeared across the river from the Aegibong observatory, with its barrels pointed toward South Korea. The sight of artillery guns positioned within view of a […]

• US curbed intel sharing over Seoul’s disclosure of North Korean nuke site: NIS (2026-10-30 07:51)

The public disclosure of information about a suspected North Korean nuclear facility by Seoul’s unification minister triggered the U.S. to start restricting intelligence sharing earlier this year, South Korea’s intelligence agency has confirmed. National Intelligence Service (NIS) Director Lee Jong-seok delivered the agency’s assessment during a briefing for the National Assembly’s Intelligence Committee on Thursday, […]

• North Korea says it launched barrage of 600mm ‘Sniper’ rockets at live-fire demo (2026-10-30 06:08)

North Korea staged live-fire demonstrations of suicide drones, cruise missiles and large-caliber rockets for a drone exhibition attended by leader Kim Jong Un, according to state media on Friday, a day after the U.S., South Korea and Japan offered wildly different estimates of the number of projectiles involved. The demonstrations on Thursday featured various tactical […]

• Why a proposed US military unit to counter North Korea could put China on alert (2026-10-30 03:58)

A U.S. general’s pitch to bring an advanced military task force to Korea has highlighted Washington’s view of the peninsula as more than a standalone front against North Korea, while raising the specter of another standoff with China. During an event in Washington this month, U.S. Forces Korea (USFK) Commander Gen. Xavier Brunson said he […]

• Switzerland officially opens new diplomatic office in North Korea (2026-10-30 03:48)

Switzerland formally opened its first diplomatic office in North Korea on Thursday evening, with Bern's top diplomat in attendance. Foreign Minister Ignazio Cassis and a DPRK diplomat cut a red ribbon at the office's opening ceremony in Pyongyang, according to photos and footage he shared on social media late Thursday. In the post, the minister [⋯]

• Kim Jong Un calls for 'absolute superiority' in drones at North Korean UAV expo (2026-10-29 23:12)

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un attended an exhibition showcasing both new and old unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) on Thursday and called for "absolute superiority" in drone technology, describing it as an essential choice to meet the demands of modern warfare. The "Unmanned Aviation Technology Development-2026" exhibition displayed various strategic and tactical multipurpose UAVs, suicide [⋯]

• Chinese agency claims it's organizing youth tours to North Korea's Wonsan resort (2026-10-29 09:57)

A Chinese travel agency claims it has been invited to organize youth tours to North Korea's Wonsan Kalma beach resort from this week, though a tourism insider expressed skepticism that the trips will actually take place. In a post on social media earlier this month, the Chinese travel agency Offline said it had received an [⋯]

• Border city casts doubt on reports North Korea testing loudspeakers (2026-10-29 08:47)

A South Korean border city has cast doubt on reports that North Korea tested loudspeakers aimed at the South on Thursday morning, after local media cited residents who said they had heard the broadcasts. "We are unable to determine exactly what happened," an official from Paju City's security team told NK News, suggesting a resident [⋯]

• Overseas North Korean workers linked to Russia's military supply chain: Report (2026-10-29 07:56)

North Korean workers have been linked to two companies that support Russia's military-industrial complex, according to a new investigation, documenting a network of Russian firms and individuals that disguise employment as education to circumvent sanctions. In a report released Thursday, The Hague-based Global Rights Compliance (GRC) states that North Koreans have been found to work [⋯]

• US sanctions 10 North Korean and Russian nationals for role in IT worker fraud (2026-10-29 07:55)

The U.S. has announced new sanctions against 10 North Korean and Russian nationals for their role in IT worker schemes that "defraud American businesses" and generate revenue for Pyongyang's weapons programs. In a press release on Wednesday, the U.S. Department of the

Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) designated eight North Korean and two [⋯]

• North Korea fires salvo of around 10 ballistic missiles toward sea: Seoul (2026-10-29 03:51)

This is a developing story. Please check back for more details. (Last updated at 1:48 p.m. KST with more details from Seoul's JCS) North Korea launched a salvo of around 10 short-range ballistic missiles (SRBMs) toward the East Sea (Sea of Japan) on Thursday, South Korea's military announced. The Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) said [⋯]

• US, ROK defense chiefs agree to delay top-level military talks on OPCON transfer (2026-10-29 03:20)

The defense chiefs of the U.S. and South Korea agreed Wednesday to postpone annual top-level talks until early 2027, dealing a setback to Seoul's efforts to assume wartime operational control (OPCON) over U.S.-ROK forces in the event of a conflict with North Korea. South Korean Defense Minister Kang Shin-chul and U.S. Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth, [⋯]

• Bonnie Jenkins on the future of North Korea diplomacy: North Korea Unpacked (2026-10-28 08:25)

Former U.S. Under Secretary of State Bonnie Jenkins joins North Korea Unpacked with Jacco Zwetsloot to discuss the growing gap between Washington's denuclearization goals and North Korea's expanding nuclear arsenal, the credibility of U.S. extended deterrence in South Korea and the prospects for renewed diplomacy between President Donald Trump and Kim Jong Un. Jenkins explains [⋯]

• The elephant's gambit: Why Seoul and Washington should ignore North Korea (2026-10-28 08:23)

Editor's note: The following article is an opinion piece by Rocco P. Santurri III, a national security professional based in Korea and U.S. Army reservist. Views expressed in opinion articles are exclusively the author's own and do not represent those of NK News or the U.S. government. For years, the Korean Peninsula has operated in [⋯]

• US-ROK command could be 'suboptimal' after OPCON transfer: Ex-USFK commander (2026-10-28 08:10)

The former commander of U.S. Forces Korea (USFK) said the combined command structure with South Korea could be "suboptimal" after the transfer of wartime operational control (OPCON), while highlighting the need to address issues with the ROK military's culture before it can take more responsibility for defending against North Korea. Speaking at an online symposium [⋯]

• North Korean trade fair shows off foreign goods, but without foreign attendees (2026-10-28 06:48)

North Korea kicked off its autumn international trade fair this week with goods from across Asia but few if any foreign attendees, while also promoting a new foldable smartphone. The DPRK's External Economic Relations Minister Yun Jong Ho opened the 18th Pyongyang International Autumn Trade Fair on Monday, state media reported the following day. The [⋯]

• Photos capture North Korean artillery deployed on South Korea's doorstep (2026-10-27 09:58)

North Korea has deployed self-propelled artillery pieces along its western border with South Korea, NK News confirmed Tuesday, as troops continued work to fortify the frontier. Photos and videos captured by NK News at the Aegibong observatory in Gimpo showed at least three artillery pieces on the northern side of the Jogang River separating Aegibong [⋯]

• New 'Call of Duty' game imagines war with North Korea, through Koreans' eyes (2026-10-27 08:56)

The world's most popular first-person shooter series has turned its sights on the Korean Peninsula, and offered perhaps the most compelling depiction of North Korea in a video game to date. Released on Friday, "Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 4" continues the franchise's unique approach to transforming complex international conflicts into blockbuster digital entertainment, centering [⋯]

• Deepfakes of North Korean forces massing on border go viral as tensions rise (2026-10-27 08:53)

Deepfake footage purporting to show North Korean forces massing across the border have gone viral this week, NK News analysis has found, presenting a misleading picture of the military situation amid rising tensions. The fakes identified by NK News appear to have been generated from real footage of 122mm self-propelled guns that the DPRK has [⋯]

• US lifts sanctions on Chinese animation studios linked to North Korean schemes (2026-10-27 08:12)

The U.S. Treasury Department has removed two Chinese animation businesses and a Chinese national from its North Korean sanctions list, without publicly explaining the decision. The Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) deleted Moxing Cartoon, Shanghai Hongman Cartoon and Animation Design Studio, and Lu Hezheng from its Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons (SDN) List, [⋯]

• Dandong residents caught off guard by restrictions during Kim Jong Un's visit (2026-10-27 06:57)

Security measures due to North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's unannounced visit to Dandong caught locals off guard over the weekend, according to social media posts seen by NK News, as authorities closed roads and in some cases locked down residential compounds. After Kim crossed the newly opened New Yalu River Bridge on Saturday, posts [⋯]

• Six North Koreans killed after train hits vehicle in Russian Far East (2026-10-27 05:15)

Six North Korean nationals were killed when a train hit their vehicle in the Russian Far East on Sunday, with local authorities launching a criminal probe into the accident. The collision took place in Russia's Jewish Autonomous Region, killing six of the seven North Korean passengers on board, the state-run RIA news agency reported, citing […]

• Swiss foreign minister to visit North Korea this week to open political office (2026-10-27 04:45)

Switzerland's foreign minister will travel to North Korea later this week to attend the official opening of the first dedicated Swiss political office in Pyongyang, marking the highest-level visit by a Western official in years. Foreign Minister Ignazio Cassis will make a two-day visit from Thursday and meet with DPRK officials, according to a Swiss […]

• Kim Jong Un's surprise China visit and rising tensions at the DMZ (2026-10-27 01:48)

Korea Risk Group Executive Director Jeongmin Kim joins the NK News Podcast this week to discuss Kim Jong Un's surprise visit to China, the reopening of a long-delayed border bridge and escalating military tensions between North and South Korea. She explains why Kim's unconventional one-day trip to Dandong signals a pragmatic approach to diplomacy focused […]

• Chinese bus factory that Kim Jong Un visited has strong ties with North Korea (2026-10-26 10:44)

The Chinese automobile factory that Kim Jong Un visited over the weekend had historical and economic ties with North Korea, NK News has found, including producing vehicles that were previously rebranded for the DPRK market. Huanghai Automobile in the Chinese border city of Dandong has also clearly signaled its interest in bolstering business with North […]

• North Korea accuses South of fabricating DMZ land mine blast in letter to UN (2026-10-26 10:07)

North Korea has sent a letter to the U.N. Security Council (UNSC) president accusing Seoul of staging a recent land mine blast that injured ROK troops in the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), after South Korea sent its own letter blaming Pyongyang for the explosion and heightened border tensions. In a statement released Monday, the state-run Korean […]

• North Korean foreign minister totes $3.5K luxury handbag during China trip (2026-10-26 08:58)

North Korean Foreign Minister Choe Son Hui appeared toting a handbag worth over $3,500 during a trip to China on Saturday, despite sanctions prohibiting the export of luxury goods to the regime and state media warnings against capitalist consumption. Choe carried a black bag resembling a Yves Saint Laurent's (YSL) Sac de Jour while accompanying […]

• Woman entered restricted area near North Korea border, damaged fencing: Seoul (2026-10-26 08:41)

A woman entered restricted South Korean territory near the North Korean border over the weekend and damaged fences along the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), Seoul officials said Monday, amid rising border tensions. “Our military on Sunday, Oct. 25, secured an unidentified person who approached military guard facilities without authorization in an area north of the Civilian [⋯]

• US court orders North Korea to pay $400M over 1968 seizure of USS Pueblo (2026-10-26 08:34)

A U.S. court has ordered North Korea to pay $400 million to compensate the crew of the USS Pueblo, a warship Pyongyang seized in 1968, bringing the total amount of damages related to the incident to nearly $3 billion. The U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia ordered the payment to several crew members [⋯]

Source: NK Pro

• North Korean actors steal $6.36B from Binance in largest crypto theft in history (2026-10-30 07:58)

North Korean cybercriminals stole $6.36 billion in cryptocurrency from the Binance exchange on Thursday, recording by far the biggest virtual theft in history, according to a U.S. blockchain analytics firm. In a blog post, TRM Labs said an attacker drained funds from Binance, the world’s largest cryptocurrency exchange by trading volume, to wallets across 10 [⋯] The post North Korean actors steal $6.36B from Binance in largest crypto theft in history appeared first on NK PRO.

• Kim Jong Un keeps up busy schedule amid growing inter-Korean border tensions (2026-10-30 05:23)

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un kept a busy public schedule this week amid rising inter-Korean tensions, traveling to China, posing for photos with military commanders and attending a drone exhibition. But domestic-facing outlets made no mention of the growing standoff with the South, even as the DPRK military deployed artillery to prominent border locations. [⋯] The post Kim Jong Un keeps up busy schedule amid growing inter-Korean border tensions appeared first on NK PRO.

• Why a spate of public disputes is déjà vu for the US-ROK alliance (2026-10-28 08:17)

Disputes between the U.S. and South Korea over everything from sharing intel on North Korean threats to management of the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) have increasingly spilled out into public view, in what looks like a revival of past alliance tensions. When Undersecretary of Defense for Policy Elbridge Colby visited Seoul in January, he described the [⋯] The post Why a spate of

public disputes is déjà vu for the US-ROK alliance appeared first on NK PRO.

- No summit, new bridge: What to make of Kim Jong Un’s unusual visit to Dandong (2026-10-26 11:18)

Kim Jong Un’s one-day trip to the Chinese border city of Dandong over the weekend was a departure from his tried-and-tested approach to diplomacy, marking the first time the North Korean leader has visited a foreign country without holding a summit with his counterpart. For Kim, trips outside the DPRK offer the chance to stand […] The post No summit, new bridge: What to make of Kim Jong Un’s unusual visit to Dandong appeared first on NK PRO.