

NKorea tested tactical guided missiles in fresh sign of evolving arsenal

By Hyonhee Shin
Reuters

SEOUL – North Korea fired tactical guided missiles on Monday, state media KCNA said on Tuesday, the latest in a series of recent tests that highlighted its evolving missile programs amid stalled denuclearization talks.

The missile test was the North's fourth in 2022, with two previous launches involving "hypersonic missiles" capable of high speed and maneuvering after lift-off, and another test on Friday using a pair of SRBMs fired from train cars.

South Korea's military said on Monday that North Korea launched two short-range ballistic missiles (SRBMs) from an airport in its capital, Pyongyang, which flew about 236 miles to a maximum altitude of 26 miles.

The Academy of Defense Science conducted a test of tactical guided missiles from the country's west, and they "precisely hit an island target" off the east coast, the official KCNA news agency said on Tuesday, without elaborating.

"The test-fire was aimed to selectively evaluate tactical guided missiles being produced and deployed and



FLAG: A North Korean flag flies on a mast at the Permanent Mission of North Korea in Geneva Oct. 2, 2014. Reuters file photo

to verify the accuracy of the weapon system," KCNA said.

It "confirmed the accuracy, security and efficiency of the operation of the weapon system under production."

The unusually rapid sequence of launches has drawn U.S. condemnation and a push for new U.N. sanctions while Pyongyang warns of stronger actions, raising the specter of a return to the period of "fire and fury" threats in 2017.

U.S. Special Representative for North Korea Sung Kim urged Pyongyang to "cease its unlawful and destabilizing activities" and reopen dialogue, saying he was open to meeting "without

preconditions," the State Department said after a call with his South Korean and Japanese counterparts.

South Korea's defense ministry said on Tuesday that it takes all North Korean missile launches as a "direct and serious threat," but its military is capable of detecting and intercepting them.

U.N. spokesman Stephane Dujarric also called the North's tests "increasingly concerning" during a briefing, calling for all parties to return to talks to defuse tension and promote a "very verifiable denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula."

'Show of force'

North Korea used the Sunan airport to test-fire the Hwasong-12 intermediate-range ballistic missile (IRBM) in 2017, with leader Kim Jong Un in attendance.

North Korea has not tested its longest-range intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) or nuclear weapons since 2017, as a flurry of diplomacy

with Washington unfolded from 2018. But it began testing a range of new SRBM designs after denuclearization talks stalled and slipped back into a standoff following a failed summit in 2019.

Kim did not attend the latest test.

A photo released by KCNA showed a missile rising into the sky above a cloud of dust, belching flame.

Kim Dong-yup, a former South Korea Navy officer who teaches at Seoul's Kyungnam University, said North Korea appears to have fired KN-24 SRBMs, which were last tested in March 2020 and flew 255 miles to a maximum altitude of 31 miles.

The KN-24 resembles the U.S. MGM-140 Army Tactical Missile System (ATACMS) and is designed to evade missile defenses and carry out precision strikes, he said.

"The North seems to have already deployed and begun mass production of the KN-24," Kim said, referring to the KCNA report.



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SUBMISSION DATE: Monday, February 7, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. CHST

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/s/ **CARMEN T. CHARFAUROS**
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SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION



SPEAKER THERESE M. TERLAJE

I Mina'trentai Sais na Liheslaturan Guåhan
36th Guam Legislature

CALL TO SESSION • FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 2022 • 9 AM

*I Liheslaturan Guåhan will be called into Session on
Friday, January 21, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. in the Guam Congress Building.*

AGENDA

(i) Call to Order (ii) Prayer
(iii) Recognition of a Recipient of *I Milåyan Mäs Takhilo 'Na Sakrafisu*;
(iv) Reciting of *Inifresi*
(v) Singing of the Guam Hymn in CHamoru
(vi) Singing of the National Anthem
(vii) Roll Call (viii) Call for Approval of the Legislative Journal (ix) Communications and Petitions (x) Messages from *I Maga'hågan Guåhan* (xi) Reports of Standing Committees (xii) Reports of Select Committees (xiii) Introduction and First Reading of Bills and Resolutions
(xiv) Motions – Vetoed Bill Nos. 11-36, 38-36, 164-36, 73-36, and 179-36; and Potential items for the agenda – Bill Nos. 81-36, 194-36, 209-36, 221-36, 229-36; 230-36, 170-36, 172-36, and 227-36; Resolution Nos. 215-36, and 234-36; Nomination of John J. Rivera, Member, Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority; and Swearing in of Counsel
(xv) Legislative Concurrence - Nominations of: Marilyn R. Borja - Member - Guam Ethics Commission; Sharon Jo Davis - Member (General Public Representative) - Guam Memorial Hospital Authority, Board of Trustees; Mark Anthony Duarte - Member - Guam Housing Corporation, Board of Directors; Elizabeth T. Fisher - Member - Alcoholic Beverage Control Board;

Andrew M. Gayle, Jr. – Member - Guam Solid Waste Authority, Board of Directors; John E.G. Ilao – Member - Alcoholic Beverage Control Board; Al Edrich Labang – Youth Member - Guam Council of the Arts and Humanities Agency, Board of Directors; Michael A. Pangelinan – Member (At-Large Representative) - Public Utilities Commission; and Nathanael P. Sanchez – Member - Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority, Board of Commissioners; (xvi) Consent Calendar (xvii) Second Reading File – Bill Nos. 41-36, 83-36, 142-36, 162-36, 173-36, 174-36, and 185-36;
(xviii) Consideration of the Daily File
(1) Third Reading File
(2) Voting File
(xix) Brief Extension of Remarks
(xx) Announcements; and
(xxi) Adjournment

All bills, resolutions, and appointments can be found at <https://guamlegislature.com/index/the-legislature/>. The placement of bills, resolutions, and appointments on the session agenda will be pursuant to our standing rules. A copy of the session agenda and other potential items to be added to the agenda is available at <http://senatorterlaje.com/public-notice-for-January-21st-session/> and <https://guamlegislature.com/index/sessions/>.

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