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'A rehearsal for war'

North Korea calls such exercises a "rehearsal for war" and has countered them with its own military action.

The new "projectiles" were developed to suit the country's terrain, and the latest test proved their "advantageous and powerful demand of the design was perfectly met," KCNA said.

Missile experts at the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies in California said photos released by KCNA appear to show a new type of short-range ballistic missile, though detailed analysis is necessary.

In a separate statement carried by KCNA, a senior North Korean diplo-



NO TALKS: North Korean leader Kim Jong Un guides the test firing of a new weapon, in this undated photo released Aug. 11 by North Korea's Korean Central News Agency. Photo courtesy of KCNA via Reuters

mat said there will not be inter-Korean talks unless the allies end their military exercises that still maintain "aggressive nature."

"Given that the military exercise clearly puts us as an enemy in its concept," said Kwon Jong Gun, director-general for American affairs at the foreign ministry.

"They should think that an inter-Korean contact itself will be difficult to be made unless they put an end to such a military exercise or before they make a

plausible excuse or an explanation in a sincere manner."

Kwon said South Korea talked "nonsense" by urging the North to stop missile tests which served its right to self-defense.

"Even the U.S. president made a remark which in effect recognizes the self-defensive rights of a sovereign state, saying that it is a small missile test which a lot of countries do," Kwon said.

Trump's response

Saturday's missile launches were

the latest in a recent string of tests by North Korea that have raised questions about the future of dialogue.

Pyeongyang has lauded Trump and his personal ties with Kim while chastising South Korea as a "puppet" regime following the orders of its master, the United States.

Keen to tout his North Korea policy ahead of his 2020 reelection bid, Trump has played down the recent series of missile tests, saying they do not violate Kim's pledge to forego nuclear and long-range tests.

Trump wrote on Twitter on Saturday that Kim has sent a letter saying "very nicely" that he was ready to resume negotiations once the "ridiculous and expensive" joint exercises were over.

He said called the offer "a small apology for testing the short range missiles, and that this testing would stop when the exercises end."

Trump and Kim have met twice since their first summit in Singapore last year, but little progress has been made on the North's stated commitment to denuclearize.

Kashmir reeling from India lockdown

SRINAGAR (Reuters) - For the first time in six days, India eased travel restrictions in some parts of Srinagar on Saturday, and people flooded the streets of Kashmir's summer capital to buy provisions ahead of the Muslim festival of Eid-al-Adha on Monday.

But with public mobile, landline telephone and internet connections still severed by the authorities in most of the Indian-controlled Jammu and Kashmir state, many people were still struggling to make contact with relatives to plan the holiday.

And some homeowners and city workers were left to clean up Srinagar's streets on Saturday, a day after police used tear gas and fired pellets to control a protest after Friday prayers over India's withdrawal of special rights for the Muslim-majority state.

Seeking to tighten its grip on the region also claimed by neighboring Pakistan, New Delhi on Monday scrapped the state's right to frame its own laws and allowed nonresidents to buy property there.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government also locked down the revolt-torn region, cutting off communications, detaining more than 500 political leaders and activists, and putting a virtual curfew into force. Numerous police and army roadblocks stopping movement by many residents.

Regional leaders had warned of a backlash in the region, where militants have been fighting Indian rule for nearly 30 years, leading to the deaths of more than 50,000 people.



PROTESTS: Kashmiri residents throw stones toward Indian security forces during restrictions after the scrapping of the special constitutional status for Kashmir by the government in Srinagar, Aug. 10. Danish Siddiqui/Reuters

Fighting for freedom

Signs of Friday's protest - the largest since India's clampdown - were visible in the Soura area of Srinagar on Saturday.

Large rocks, wooden platforms, poles and boulders blocked the main street, and shops were shut. Protest graffiti, including calls for "Azad" - the Urdu word for freedom - were visible.

Reuters reported at least 10,000 people were involved in Friday's

protest, based on an estimate provided by a police source and backed up by two eyewitnesses. Another official source on Saturday gave Reuters the same estimate.

In a tweeted statement on Saturday, the spokeswoman for India's Ministry of Home Affairs, Vasudha Gupta, said the estimate of 10,000 was "completely fabricated."

There had been a few "stray protests" in the area, but none involved a crowd of more than 20 people, she said.

Reuters was unable to reach Gupta for further comment.

Video footage carried by international news channels, the BBC and Al Jazeera and available online, appeared to show very large crowds protesting in Srinagar on Friday.

In the Bemina area of western Srinagar, around a dozen residents

told Reuters that security forces had thrown stones and bricks at homes and cars in retaliation for the protests, breaking windows as a result.

The Indian government did not immediately respond to a request for comment about the alleged incident. Reuters was not able to independently verify the residents' claims.

Long lines, bigger crowds

Many people sought out the few policemen who have been provided with mobile phones. At a crossroads in Srinagar's Nowhatta area, a police official said around 78 people had used his phone on Saturday to contact relatives outside Kashmir.

Inside a second-floor meeting room at Srinagar's district administration office, more than 100 people crowded around two mobile phones to make calls outside the valley.

An official there, who declined to be named, said 354 people had registered their names to use the phones.

GUAM BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR DENTISTRY

**Regular Meeting,
Wednesday, August 14,
2019 at 3:00 PM**

at the Teraje Professional Building, 194 Hernan Cortez Avenue, 2nd Floor, Suite 209 Health Professional Licensing Office Board Conference Room, Hagatna, Guam.

For more information, please contact the Board office at 735-7405 thru 12. Persons with disabilities needing special accommodations may call 735-7172 or the telecommunication device for the Hearing/Speech Impaired (TDD) at 649-1801. Executive meeting may be called if necessary.

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13th FestPac Guam Planning Committee

The 13th FestPac Guam Planning Committee meeting will be held on **Wednesday, August 14, 2019 at 1:00 pm.** Sen. Antonio M. Palomo Guam Museum & Chamoru Educational Facility, multi-purpose conference room, 1st Floor, 193 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagatna. For agenda call 300-1204/8 or email jacqueline.balbas@cha.guam.gov.

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