

Sinclair Inlet Chapter No. 80 National Sojourners, Inc



Bremerton, Washington

Our website address is: www.telebyte.com/masons/sojourn/index.htm

Feb 2018 Newsletter

Chapter Officers 2017-2018

President	MSG Robert Monroe	360-801-2237	robertmonroe@hotmail.com
1st Vice President	MM1 Orville Stoner, Sr.	360-782-2385	ovstoner@comcast.net
2nd Vice President	CSCS Todd Mears	360-286-0358	navy.pride1987@yahoo.com
Secretary/Treasurer	Mr. Charles Yankosky	206-780-0563	cyankosky@yahoo.com
Marshal	MCPO Henry Carman	360-698-4776	hankcarman@wavecable.com
Chaplain	LTC Wendell Dutt	253-565-5264	wadutt@comcast.net
Color Bearer	Mr. Peter Dawson	360-779-8219	etypubba@aol.com

Hero Camp Officers 2017-2018

Commander	CMDCM Joseph MacIntyre	360-275-0589	haggis@wavecable.com
Chief of Staff	MM1 Orville Stoner, Sr.	360-782-2385	ovstoner@comcast.net
Adjutant	Mr. Charles Yankosky	206-780-0563	cyankosky@yahoo.com

Meeting Notice!

We will meet at VFW Post #239, 190 Dora Ave, Bremerton on Friday, 9 Feb. Social hour and dinner begin at 1800, meeting at 1900 hours. Ladies and guests are always welcome at the meeting and are urged to attend.

The associated Lewis and Clark Camp of the Heroes of '76 meets immediately following the Sojourner meeting and is open to all Heroes.

Don't forget to wear your Medals!

Highlights of the 12 Jan Meeting

Since there weren't enough members present for the 12 Jan meeting, we didn't open Chapter. We took a long dinner and discussed a number of things not directly related to Chapter business. For instance Bro. Joe MacIntyre explained the structure of Scottish Rite. Bro. Wendell Dutt was away at the Mid-Winter Convention in Nashville. For a non-meeting we were there late, not leaving until after 8:30. Pres. Robert Monroe has been putting in long hours at the Post Office.



What’s going on? One minute the State of Hawaii receives an alert that there’s an incoming missile and the next minute it’s retracted. It was said that North Korean missiles could reach Hawaii and Alaska.

The fired, 50ish state employee, who remained anonymous for his own safety, was 100% sure the Jan. 13 missile alert was real, even though several other employees heard the word “exercise” repeated several times during the message.

Investigating officer, Brig. Gen. Bruce Oliveira said once the mistake was realized, the employee froze and another employee had to take over and retract the alert. Afterwards the manager of the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency resigned.

The “Incoming Ballistic Missile” alert went out at 8:07, Sat., Jan. 13. Hawaii EMA tweeted “No Missile Threat” at 8:20. But no phone alert was sent for the next 38 minutes, causing panic among people who couldn’t check social media.

The employee had previously mistaken tsunami and fire warnings for real-life events, but was counseled and allowed to return to work.

Sen. Duckworth Reports on Korea

U.S. Senator Tammy Duckworth (D-IL) returned on Jan. 16 from a 4 day trip to South Korea and Japan with U.S. Representative Ruben Gallego (D-AZ). She reported, “After visiting South Korea and Japan and meeting with diplomats, military leaders and service members, it is clear that the cost of a war on the Korean peninsula would be .

catastrophic and claim countless military and civilian lives. We need to maintain strong relations with South Korea and Japan and support our defense forces in the region to deter North Korea. We will not compromise on de-nuclearization.

She further stated that North Korean dictator Kim Jong Un poses a serious and deadly threat to the U.S. As President Trump and Kim Jong Un trade insults (Trump told Kim Jong Un “My nuclear button is bigger than Rocket Man’s”), the President has yet to appoint an ambassador to South Korea. (The last U.S. Ambassador, Mark Lippert (2014-2017) was stabbed in the face on Mar. 5, 2015 by a South Korean demanding unification of North and South Korea). The Trump administration has warned about using force if diplomacy fails to stop North Korea from getting missiles that can strike the U.S. Duckworth concluded that there is no such thing as a surgical strike against North Korea. Striking North Korea means a ground invasion, which could lead to an all out war on the peninsula, if not strikes against the U.S.

Duckworth retired from the Illinois Army Reserve as a Lt. Col. after 23 years in the Army. She lost both legs in Iraq in 2004 when the helicopter she was co-piloting was hit by an insurgent rocket propelled grenade. Rep. Gallego served as a Marine in Iraq.

At present 3 aircraft carrier battle groups and a ballistic missile sub (*Michigan*) have been sent to Western Pacific. So far there have been no advisories to American civilians and companies to leave, but Duckworth feels Congress should set aside contingency funds to evacuate non-combatants if the need arises.

The Pentagon admitted that North Korea would never give up its weapons short of a U.S. invasion. Seoul would be devastated if North Korean artillery wasn’t silenced. If Kim Jong Un feared he was losing power he might use his chemical and biological weapons. The Allies feel the Trump administration should give international sanctions more time to work before using other measures.

Marine Corps Commandant Gen. Robert Neller wants to give the diplomats time to come up with a diplomatic solution. But if diplomacy fails he wants to be ready to



Sen. Duckworth looks across the DMZ into North Korea

go. The service chiefs have gotten familiar with the geography, devised plans and made force deployments to hint to the other side, “You really don’t want to do this.”

Alexander Vorontsov, a Russian visitor to the North Korean capital, reported that the North Korean foreign ministry said that they do not want war, but they would not hide from it either. They feared the U.S. was getting ready for military operations against the North. Their only question was, “When will war break out?” North Korean soldiers have long been sleeping without taking their boots off.

North Korea – A land of Deprivation and Nukes

How did North Korea, a land that can’t even feed its own people, get nuclear weapons? Kim Jong Un would say that he knows his people are hungry. They don’t have food and medicine. But they have to spend money on nuclear weapons because the U.S. is out to get us.

North Korea built a research reactor in 1963 and has been working on nuclear weapons since the 1980’s. Soviet engineers helped build a nuclear research center in 1965, which was upgraded to 8 megawatts in 1974. Then North Korea began enriching uranium and conducting high explosive detonation tests. In the 1990’s the U.N. Security Council found North Korea non-compliant with the International Non-Proliferation Treaty of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). North Korea responded by leaving the NPT entirely in 2003. In 2002 Pakistan admitted that North Korea had gotten much nuclear technology from them in the 1990’s.

Timeline

2006 – First successful underground test of a 1 kiloton device.

2007 – North Korea said they would shut down their main nuclear facility in exchange for fuel and normalized relations with Japan and the U.S.

2009 – Second underground test of a 2 – 7 kiloton device.

2012 – The Democratic Peoples’ Republic of Korea (North) said they would stop enriching uranium and nuclear testing in exchange for humanitarian and food aid. But after North Korea started long-range missile testing, the U.S. decided not to send food aid.

2013 – The U.S. Geological Service reported a 5.1 earthquake, reportedly the third underground test with a yield of about 10 kilotons.

2016 – Jan 6. The U.S.G.S. detected another 5.1 earthquake, a fourth underground test with a yield of 6-9 KT. The North Koreans claimed it was a hydrogen bomb, but the yield was not in the H-bomb range. They may have tried to boost an atomic bomb with a hydrogen isotope called tritium.

2016 – Feb. 7. North Korea launched a space satellite into orbit. The Japanese said that if the rocket intruded into their airspace they would shoot it down. The North Koreans claimed it was for peaceful and scientific purposes. China warned this would escalate tensions on the Korean peninsula. The Americans claimed the satellite was tumbling in orbit and serving no useful purpose.

-Sep. 9. A fifth North Korean test occurred with about a 25 KT yield. The U.N. Security Council voted for a variety of sanctions against North Korea.

2017 – North Korea launched two ICBMs, one of which had enough range to reach the U.S.

- Mar. 6. Four ballistic missiles were launched toward the Sea of Japan.

- Apr. 16. A missile was launched but blew up.

- Jul. 4. A Hwasong-14 missile flew for 37 minutes and 578 miles (930 km) before falling into the deep waters of the Sea of Japan. A second launch on Jul. 28 reached a height of 3,700 km and flew 1,000 km. The accuracy of the Hwasong-14 is rated as poor. The Defense Intelligence Agency reported that the North Koreans could make a nuclear warhead small enough to fit inside a missile.

- Sep. 3. North Korea announced a perfect H-bomb test with a yield of about 250 KT, although the claim couldn’t be verified.

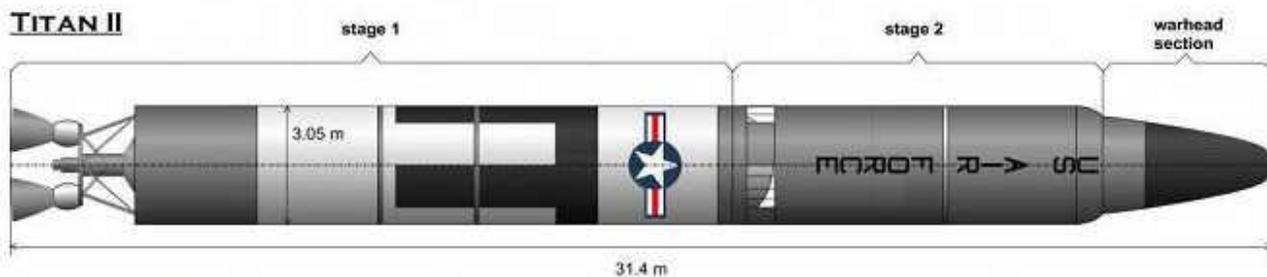
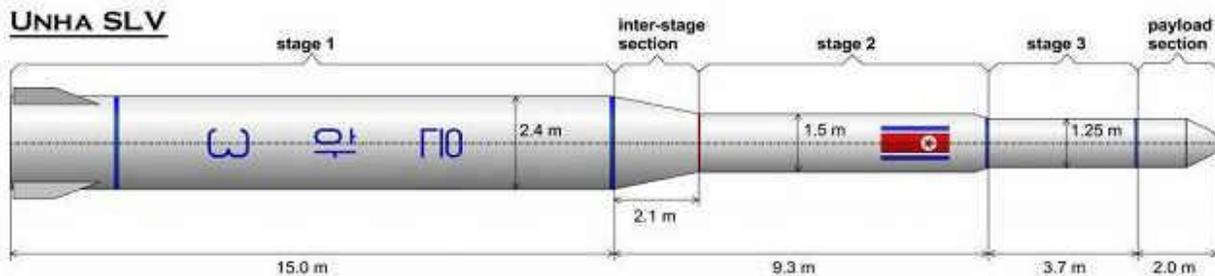
- Nov. 20. President Trump re-listed North Korea as a state sponsor of terrorism. South Korea and Japan greeted this news as a way of putting more pressure on North Korea to de-nuclearize.

- Nov. 28. No. Korea fired off another test missile.

It isn’t known if the North Koreans can protect their missiles from blowing up when they re-enter the earth’s atmosphere. Most North Korean missiles were derived from earlier Soviet-era mobile launched Scud missiles.



Kim Jong Un inspects purported silver nuclear device.



Comparison of North Korean Unha and Hwasong rockets with U.S. Titan. Unha is an expendable carrier rocket for launching satellites. The Hwasong-14 is an ICBM that could fly from North Korea to the West Coast.



(Upper L.) Missile on its mobile launcher. (Above) Hwasong-14 in launch position. (Lwr L.) Hwasong-14 away.