

6. Conduct Special Operations and Guerrilla Warfare in the Enemy's Rear: These operations are to be conducted in close coordination with conventional operations to maximize disruption of CFC air, artillery, and logistics support to frontline CFC units.

7. Use the NKN and NKAF in Coordination with Ground Forces: Employ the unique fires available from these forces to carry the fight to the depths of CFC defenses. Use their transport capabilities to insert SOF. Use them to safeguard the impregnable rear from air and sea attack.

8. Echelon Forces: Echelon at corps and below to provide both offensive and defensive options as a conflict unfolds. Normally three echelons: about two-thirds of force in first echelon, about one-third in the second echelon, with about one-ninth held in reserve or as the third echelon.

9. Combined Arms Operations: Coordinate the actions of all forces, large and small, conventional and unconventional, to successfully execute combat engagements.

10. **Adequate Logistics:** Ensure that there are sufficient logistic units to support combat operations and long LOCs.

11. **Use Terrain to the Best Advantage:** Emphasize mountain operations.

12. **Detailed Reconnaissance:** Know CFC locations and be able to target them.

OPERATIONAL LEVEL OF WAR

Operational Level Offense

The operational objective of DPRK forces in the offense is the destruction of CFC forces in a short duration, high intensity campaign employing maneuver warfare.

To achieve these objectives, the DPRK has developed a mobile, ground force emphasizing the utilization of overwhelming firepower. The latest evolution in force structure and doctrine, begun in the late 1970s, has resulted in two distinct force organizations: a large, mobile active force (including SOF) organized, trained, and deployed to carry out

offensive operations against the CFC, and an extensive, well trained reserve force to defend the DPRK.

The DPRK offensive against the ROK will consist of three phases. The objective of the first phase will be to breach the defenses along the DMZ and destroy the forward deployed CFC forces. The objective of the second phase will be to isolate Seoul and consolidate gains. The objective of the third phase will be to pursue and destroy remaining CFC forces and occupy the remainder of the peninsula.

The three forward conventional corps, I, II, and V, are considered the "warfighting" corps. They are expected to conduct the initial attacks with the primary mission of annihilating CFC forces north of Seoul. The concept of annihilation is the key to the KPA doctrine, as it continually states the necessity to destroy enemy forces in place. The forward corps' follow-on mission is the defeat of CFC forces in depth.

The remaining conventional corps, III, IV, VI, VII, VIII, and the Capital Defense Corps (CDC) have several possible missions. These missions include providing follow-on forces,

round-out forces, and serving as coastal, rear area, or capital defense forces. Dependent on the forward corps' success, the rear corps will release units to serve as replacements.

Two mechanized corps and part of the armor corps will provide the exploitation forces to carry the battle beyond Seoul. The remaining mechanized corps and armor from the armor corps could provide the strategic reserve north of the DMZ.

Just prior to the initiation of hostilities, two army level commands may be established. These commands are expected to control operations from the DMZ to the port of Pusan. Army Group I would be responsible for conducting the main attack into the western portion of South Korea and destroying the bulk of CFC forces north of Seoul.

Army Group II would be responsible for conducting supporting attacks down the eastern portion of the ROK and securing the left flank of Army Group I. Army Group II would most likely consist of the following forces:

First Echelon: Will consist of the forward corps. Their mission will be to conduct the initial infantry assault across the DMZ and break through CFC defenses.

Second Echelon: Will consist of mechanized and armor forces. The primary mission of these forces will be to envelop and destroy forward deployed forces.

Third Echelon: Will also consist of mechanized and armor forces. The mission of these forces will be to pursue and destroy the remaining CFC forces and to occupy the entire peninsula. Additionally, strategic reserve forces or follow-on forces exist to augment all echelons if required.

Although the NKA places great emphasis on maneuver, it has elected not to rely on extensive mechanization of its infantry forces. It is important to note the NKA concept of "mechanization." To the NKA, mechanization is designed to provide rapid "protected" movement of an infantry force. For the most part, personnel travel in armored personnel carriers or trucks, not infantry fighting vehicles. Once the force reaches its destination, troops dismount to conduct traditional infantry operations rather than Russian-style infantry fighting vehicle (IFV) tactics while fighting a mounted battle, whenever

possible, through the enemy defenses. Selective mechanization has been accomplished through the use of self-propelled artillery and anti-aircraft systems and tanks, but not large quantities of armored personnel carriers or IFVs. As in the past, the DPRK ground force of the 1990s relies on the foot soldiers' ability to exploit nontrafficable terrain. The objective is to overwhelm CFC units with conventional forces and exploit breakthroughs with mechanized assets without becoming roadbound.

Exploitation Forces

To support offensive operations of the forward corps, the NKA has created four mechanized corps and an armor corps. Two mechanized, the 806th and 815th, and the 820th armored corps are positioned to support strikes by the forward conventional corps and are considered to be tactical exploitation forces. Individual mechanized brigades may be turned over to the control of the forward corps to exploit breakthroughs achieved by the infantry. Their main objective is to drive deeply behind CFC lines and set up blocking positions to cut off withdrawing or reinforcing CFC forces.

Each mechanized brigade is capable of independent operations behind enemy lines.

Successful destruction of CFC forces north of Seoul will enable the NKA to commit its operational exploitation forces. This force will operate under the control of an army command and conduct corps level, cohesive operations. They are expected to be committed at the time forward CFC forces are annihilated. Their mission is to quickly seize and secure key terrain leading to control of the area between Seoul and Pusan.

The NKA will seek force ratios of 3-5 to 1 in armor, 6-8 to 1 in artillery, and 4-6 to 1 in infantry forces to mount an attack. In attempting to breach a well prepared defensive position, the NKA may be expected to seek even larger ratios. This undoubtedly would be the case in attempting to break through DMZ defenses.

Combined arms operations constitute the foundation of tactical battle in NKA doctrine. Utilization of the forward conventional corps, reinforced by the mechanized and armor corps, to fight from the DMZ to Pusan is called the Strike Force concept. This concept embodies how the NKA is

expected to fight, especially south of Seoul or in defense of the DPRK.

The Strike Force concept was devised to compensate for DPRK deficiencies, CFC strengths, and terrain considerations. Using a task organization approach, the NKA fields, trains, and exercises a large ground force, designed to overcome the strengths and exploit the weaknesses of CFC forces. Strike Forces/Groups are formed around a core unit, either a corps, division, or regiment/brigade. As the situation develops, additional units, such as armor, or artillery, may be diverted to the Strike Force to significantly increase available fire support.

The DPRK maneuver forces will echelon in three parts: a forward element (most likely reinforced light infantry), which is a self-contained maneuver force and two maneuver elements. Although the second maneuver element is sometimes referred to as the reserve, it contains sufficient combat weight to assume the lead of the main attack should the first maneuver element fail or stall, or to attack another objective.

Avenues of Approach

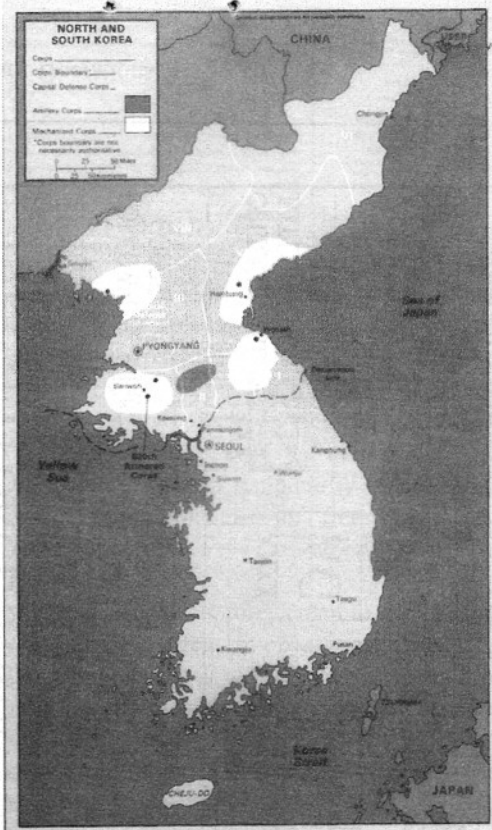
The NKA is expected to use three primary avenues of approach into the ROK. They are the Kaesong-Munsan approach, the Chorwon Valley approach, and along the Eastern Coast. There are several sub-maneuver corridors that can facilitate maneuver from the three major avenues of approach.

KAESONG-MUNSAN	CHORWON VALLEY	EAST COAST
Kaesong-Munsan North	Kumwha Valley Chorwon West (MSR 3)	T'aedong Mountains






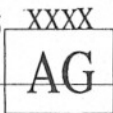
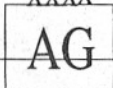












The Second Front

As the attack against the forward defenses along the DMZ begins, DPRK forces will initiate SCUD and FROG missile attacks with high explosives, smoke, and possible nonpersistent chemical warheads against airfields, lines of communications C2, and logistics facilities. Additionally, the DPRK attacks will be supported by the opening of a "second front" in CFC's rear areas by teams of SOF. These soldiers, dressed in ROK army uniforms and carrying ROK weapons and equipment, will infiltrate into the south by air, sea, and through tunnels under the DMZ to attack CFC airfields, C3, and other key targets.



NKA FORCE STRUCTURE

FUNCTION	CORPS/CORPS-LEVEL ORGANIZATIONS			
FOLLOW-ON CORPS	 8	 3	 7	 6
OPERATIONAL EXPLOITATION	 425			 108
TACTICAL EXPLOITATION	 815		 820	 806  AC
FORWARD (WARFIGHTING) CORPS	 4	 2	 5	 1