

Years of diplomatic tensions



RISE IN TENSION

1945
Korean peninsula is divided along the 38th parallel. South Korea comes under US protection

1950
North Korea invades the South. US intervenes and retakes Seoul

1953
US imposes sanctions after armistice is agreed between the two Koreas

1968
USS Pueblo is seized. Crew are held captive for 11 months

1969
North Korea shoots down a US spy plane

1988
Washington puts North Korea on its blacklist of state supporters of terrorism

1994
North Korea's first long-range missile test



1998
Pyongyang refuses to negotiate with George W. Bush, denouncing him as a tyrant and political imbecile

1999
US says North Korea is part of Axis of Evil, accuses it of breaching 1994 agreement

2002
North Korea's first nuclear weapons test

2006
Kim Jong Un takes power, intensifies nuclear programme

2017
North Korea fires a series of provocative test missiles throughout the year. It conducts its sixth nuclear test in September

Aug: Donald Trump threatens North Korea with fire and fury. Kim threatens the US Pacific island of Guam

Nov: US returns North Korea to its blacklist. North Korea conducts test of Hwasong-15, its most advanced missile that puts the entire US within reach



DE-ESCALATION

- Former US president Jimmy Carter visits Pyongyang
- Kim Il Sung dies and is succeeded by Kim Jong Il
- **North Korea and the US sign an Agreed Framework under which Pyongyang commits to freezing its nuclear programme in return for heavy fuel oil and two light-water nuclear reactors**



2000
Moratorium on nuclear tests. Washington relaxes sanctions

2004
US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright visits Pyongyang



2011
US removes North Korea from its blacklist

MARCH 8, 2018:
Kim Jong Un and Donald Trump agree to meet to secure a deal to remove nuclear weapons from the Korean peninsula