

— TOP TAKEAWAYS —
**The Challenge of
North Korea**



THE THREAT: NORTH KOREA...

- Is becoming a direct nuclear threat to the U.S. mainland.
- Carried out six increasingly powerful nuclear tests from 2006-2017, as well as long-range rockets tests just last year.
- At the very least will have an enhanced capacity for nuclear blackmail, possibly emboldening other despotisms like Russia, China and Iran.
- Could sell its nuclear wares to rogue states/terrorist groups.



THE REGIME...

- Has been controlled by one ruthless family—the Kim family—since the end of WWII.
- Is the most repressive on earth, ruinous and cruel to its own people.
- Has been found to have committed “crimes against humanity” by a UN inquiry, including “extermination, murder, enslavement, torture, imprisonment, rape, forced abortions and other sexual violence” and “prolonged starvation.”



U.S. POLICY

- We station 28,500 troops (and their families) in South Korea to deter an attack.
- We've pursued diplomatic solutions, via combinations of talks, deals, passivity, threats and sanctions.
- All have failed (repeatedly), while North Korea has become ever more dangerous.
- The only real remedy is an end to the North Korean regime.