

KOREA, DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF (North Korea)

SUMMARY OF CLAIMS

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
TERRITORIAL SEA	Mar 1955	Resolution No. 25	12nm	Included East Korea Bay; required prior permission for foreign warships. [A 12nm territorial sea was an excessive claim at that time.]
ARCHIPELAGIC, STRAIGHT BASELINES, & HISTORIC CLAIMS	Aug 1977	Army Command Announcement		<p>No precise delineation of the limits of the military zones given. The only information regarding coordinates for the eastern military zone was obtained by a Japanese delegation that had visited North Korea to negotiate a fishing agreement (see below). Straight baselines not officially announced, but are inferred from the coordinates given to the Japanese fishery delegation.</p> <p><i>The U.S. does not recognize these claims. The U.S. protested in CY 1977 (public statement) and 1990 (diplomatic protest) and conducted an operational assertion (overflight) in FY 1988.</i></p>
CONTIGUOUS ZONE	Aug 1977	Army Command Announcement	50 to 200nm	<p>Established military boundary zones up to 50 miles from the starting line of the territorial waters in the east sea [Sea of Japan], and to the boundary line of the economic sea zone in the west sea [Yellow Sea]. Prohibited foreign military vessels and planes and required prior permission for civilian ships and planes (excluding fishing boats) in zones.</p> <p><i>The U.S. does not recognize these claims. The U.S. protested in CY 1977 (public statement) and 1990 (diplomatic protest) and conducted an operational assertion (overflight) in FY 1988.</i></p>
FISHING ZONE/EEZ	Jun 1977	Decree Establishing the Economic Zone	200nm	<p>EIF 1 August 1977. EEZ extends 200nm from territorial sea baseline; in waters that cannot be delimited to 200nm, EEZ demarcated by a line bisecting the waters. No delineation of limits given. "No foreign person, vessel or aircraft may ...take photographs, investigate, ... [or] survey" in the EEZ without prior approval.</p> <p><i>This prohibition is not recognized by the U.S.</i></p>
MARITIME BOUNDARIES	Apr 1985	Agreement with Russia		Agreement with USSR on the delimitation of the Soviet-Korean national border.
	Jan 1986	Agreement with Russia		Agreement with USSR on the delimitation of the EEZs and continental shelf.
	Sep 1990	Agreement with Russia		Agreement with USSR concerning the regime of state frontier.

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
LOS CONVENTION	Dec 1982			Signed Convention; never ratified.

MILITARY ZONE

North Korea issued a decree establishing an economic zone on 21 June 1977, which went into effect on 1 August 1977. Also on 1 August 1977, North Korea announced (via radio) the establishment of a "military zone." The military zone was described as extending up to 50 miles from the starting line of the territorial waters in the east sea [Sea of Japan], and to the boundary line of the economic sea zone in the west sea [Yellow Sea]. As with its previously announced 200nm EEZ, no precise delineation of the limits of the military zones was given, thus leaving their boundaries open to interpretation.

The only substantive information regarding the coordinates of the eastern military zone was obtained by a Japanese delegation that had visited North Korea to negotiate a fishing agreement. The coordinates reported by the Japanese have come to be regarded as an accurate depiction of the limits of the security zone off the east coast. This zone is believed to be the area enclosed within the following points:

EAST COAST

LATITUDE NORTH	LONGITUDE EAST
38-36-48 N	128-22-00 E
38-36-48 N	129-30-30 E
41-46-13 N	131-31-15 E
42-17-00 N	130-41-00 E

On the west coast, the Military Zone equates to the EEZ. Again, although coordinates have never been promulgated by North Korea, the Military Zone and EEZ are believed to be encompassed within the following points:

WEST COAST

LATITUDE NORTH	LONGITUDE EAST
39-48 N	124-05 E
38-05 N	123-14 E
38-03 N	124-49 E
37-34 N	125-01 E
37-38 N	125-40 E
37-56 N	125-50 E

Although the above area does not conform completely to a midline delineation of the EEZ in the Yellow Sea, and also fails to encompass a considerable body of water to the southwest that might logically be included, the above coordinates are believed to be correct based on North Korean enforcement practices. **It is emphasized, however, that no coordinates have been officially promulgated by the North Korean Government.**

MARITIME BOUNDARY AGREEMENTS

NORTH KOREA - RUSSIA

The following is extracted from the Agreement between North Korea and the USSR on the Delimitation of the Soviet-Korean National Border, signed 17 April 1985.

Article 1

The line of the national border between the USSR and DPRK passes from the junction of the borders of the USSR, the PRC, and the DPRK along the middle of the main channel of the Tumen (Tumannaya) River to its estuary, and therefrom in the Sea of Japan (East Korea Sea) to the line's point of intersection with the external boundary of Soviet and Korean territorial waters as shown in the Description of the Demarcation Line of the National Border and the map on a scale of 1:50,000 that are appended to this Treaty.

The Description of the Demarcation Line of the National Border and the map on a scale of 1:50,000 indicating the line of the border constitute an integral part of this Treaty.

Description of Demarcation Line of the National Border between the DPRK and USSR

The national border between the USSR and the DPRK begins from the junction of the borders of the USSR, the DPRK and the PRC (Point A).

From point A, located in the middle of the Tumen (Tumannaya) River, the line of the border proceeds along the middle of the river in a southeasterly direction approximately 1.1 km from the aforementioned starting point A, turns southward, and reaches point B along the main channel of the river.

Point B is situated in the middle of the main channel of the river, approximately 1.4 km southeast of the western tip of the railway bridge and approximately 1.5 m south of the eastern tip of this same bridge.

At point B the line of the border turns southeast and, proceeding along the middle of the main channel of the river, turns south approximately 3.5 km from point B and approaches point C.

Point C is located in the middle of the main channel of the river, approximately 2.5 km southeast of height 89.9 situated on the Korean side, and approximately 3.3 km northeast of height 120.1 on the Korean side.

From point C the line of the national border, proceeding southwest along the middle of the channel of the river, approaches point D.

Point D is located in the middle of the main channel of the river, approximately 1.2 km southeast of height 120.1 situated on the Korean side, and approximately 1.5 km east of height 148 on the Korean side.

From point D the line of the border passes southward along the middle of the river, leaving one island on the Soviet side and one island on the Korean side, and reaches point E.

Point E is located in the middle of the main channel of the river, approximately 1.5 km southeast of height 154 situated on the Korean side, and approximately 1.0 km northeast of height 185 on the Korean side.

From point E the line of the border proceeds along the middle of the river in a generally southeastern direction and, leaving on the Korean side the island Tkhory, the island Great Pkhunnyon, and the island Little Pkhunnyon [all these Korean names are transliterated from the Russian], reaches the middle of the Tumannaya (Tumen) River estuary.

The final point F of the line of the border on the river is located in the center of a line drawn in the Tumen (Tumannaya) River estuary from the southernmost point of the Soviet coast to the northernmost point of the Korean coast of the Sea of Japan (East Korean Sea).

From point F the line of the national border between Soviet and Korean territorial waters passes along a straight line to a point having the geographical coordinates lat. 42° 09' N. and long. 130° 53' E.

The following is extracted from the Agreement between North Korea and the USSR on the Delimitation of the Economic Zone and the Continental Shelf (signed 22 January 1986, EIF May 1986).

Article 1

The boundary of the economic zone and the continental shelf between the USSR and the DPRK intersects the line of the out limit of the Soviet and Korean territorial waters, with the geographic coordinates of latitude 42° 09.0' North and longitude 130° 53.0' East.... From this point, the boundary follows a straight line, first southeast, to a point having the geographic coordinates of latitude 39° 47.5' North and longitude 133° 13.7' East, and then turns eastward and proceeds to a point with the geographic coordinates of latitude 39° 39.3' North and longitude 133° 45.0' East.